

# Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION

VOL. XXX.—NEW SERIES, No. 1963.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1870.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... 54.  
STAMPED..... 64.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

## THE SION COLLEGE CONFERENCE.

THE paper read at Sion College about a fortnight since by Sir J. D. Coleridge, Her Majesty's Solicitor-General, on the limits of free inquiry in the Established Church, the outline of which, sketched by the *Inquirer*, appeared in our columns last week, and was followed by the discussion for a remarkably able description of which we are indebted to the same paper, claims from us even more than a passing consideration. It will be remembered by such of our readers as went over with care the outline of Sir John's paper, that he entirely gave up the old theory upon which the establishment of the Christian Church in these realms was wont to be defended. The object of an Establishment, according to his view, is not to teach religious truth, which, in fact, in as far as it is regarded as a duty devolving upon the State, logically involves persecution, and makes toleration of error an indefensible anomaly. His idea of a Church Establishment is that it is a provision made by Parliament for carrying religious teaching throughout the country, leaving Parliament to control and settle what doctrine shall be taught, and what forms of worship shall be observed. When, as now, people belong to the Church only by a bare majority; when its formularies have become antiquated, as maintaining opinions which, whatever may have been the importance attached to them in past ages, have subsequently ceased to retain their hold upon the people's faith; when a whole class of questions has arisen on which the formularies are either silent or are clearly opposed to the religious feeling and intelligence of the country, the Church, as an Establishment, is in an entirely false position. A National Church in a free country, he contends, must represent the religious opinion of the country, and if the religious opinion in that country is various, the Church must include great variety of opinions. "It is for us," he adds, "to disencumber it from forms which have sapped its power, and so be fellow-workers with God in the Spirit for the Church of Christ, remembering how all holy men of all creeds and Churches have agreed in the central truths which are the foundation of Christianity."

It will be seen from the report of the discussion which followed, that whatever may be the opinion of the laity in the Church of England, that of the clergy is not yet prepared to go with the learned Solicitor-General in his some-

what latitudinarian conclusions. The Evangelical party, as represented by the Rev. J. F. Moran, is not, of course, disposed to part with the Thirty-nine Articles, nor with the doctrines of the Protestant Reformation, nor to accept for the Church the guidance of Parliament to determine what dogmas can now be dispensed with, and what can be rationally maintained. The High Churchmen, represented by the Rev. rector of Newington, must needs protest against regulating religious faith by popular opinions, and against virtually admitting that the truth as taught by the Church of Christ can be modified or annulled by the progress of Democracy. The Dean of Westminster, representing the Broad Church, made some startling statements which we find it difficult to reconcile with the course of history; for, although it may be literally correct that "there never was any period in history in which Protestant Nonconformists were excluded from the House of Commons," the Dean will surely admit that they were practically kept out of Parliament, and were meant to be so, by requiring from all members that they should take the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in conformity with the ritual of the Established Church. The Dean, as we all know, is opposed to tests and to clerical subscriptions, and he contends that, whether on the Liberal latitudinarian side, or on the dogmatic side, we must make up our minds to consider the question in the most comprehensive spirit.

Logically speaking, there is no doubt that Sir J. D. Coleridge had by far the best of the argument, as against Evangelicals and High Churchmen. The position of these two schools of ecclesiastical thought is certainly irreconcilable with the present state of facts. A national Church, regarded as an exponent of Scriptural truth to the nation, or as an organised representation of the religious spirit and feeling of the nation, is, in the present state of opinion and belief, a mere creature of the imagination. It was once a fact, but it has long ceased to be so. It was never less a fact than it is at this moment. It is an enforced compromise; or, perhaps, we may more correctly characterise it as a compulsory system of compromises, repugnant to the desires and hurtful to the consciences, because to the veracity, of those who submit to it. And it is to be observed that the chief element of wrong in the matter is introduced into it solely by the application of law to the definition of the duties which a Church shall recognise, of the limitations which it shall impose upon its own freedom, and of the doctrines which it shall be the organ of communicating to its various members. The latitude prescribed by charity is one thing, the latitude prescribed by law is another. There is many a deed which a man may do of love, which he must be false in his principles to allow law to exact from him. In point of fact, Churches cannot be constituted upon a basis of law, whether the basis be in itself narrow and sectarian or broad and national, without deviating from the essential design which pervades all the representations given to us of a Christian Church by Scriptural authority.

We confess we see no need of what is called a National Church for the highest development of a Nation's spiritual life. We are wholly unable to divine what is to be gained either for the freedom, the purity, the power, or the progress of that life, by confining it within the

artificial limitations of an institution established by law. All history has testified to the difficulties and the divisions that an insistence upon this form of development has hitherto and almost everywhere produced. Until recently, the claims made on behalf of a Church Establishment have been uniformly of a protective character, and, as Sir John Coleridge points out, have been logically incompatible with the practice of toleration. Law having failed in this direction, the attempt is now being made to assert its necessity in another. Its object is no longer to be, to confine religious teaching within the limits of prescribed doctrines, but to give a sanction and a sort of religious unity to religious teaching of every kind. The unity, however, is only seeming, and not real. Look at this Sion College Conference. What does it prove as to the present? What does it indicate as to the future? If the Church, as an Establishment, should cease to exist to-morrow, discordant parties in the Church would instantly fall asunder; for they are not homogeneous in their creeds, their sympathies, or their teachings. If, on the other hand, the Establishment continues to exist, and subscriptions and tests be legally abolished, it is quite clear that nothing whatever will be gained for the Church which might not equally be gained, and far more honourably, by liberating it from all national control. Will any one pretend that there is a higher development of spiritual life in England than in our own colonies, or in the United States of America? Will anyone thoroughly acquainted with the facts venture to assert that there is more Catholicity of feeling where we have an Establishment than there is where they have none? We must not allow ourselves, however, to dismiss this very interesting and important question without a few interrogatives. As time and opportunity shall favour, we propose to return to it. We regard the position taken up by the Solicitor-General as the last upon which the theory of a Church Establishment can be defended, and we are thoroughly satisfied that it is a position which, more than any of its predecessors, will be carried at a run by that earnestness of regard for Christian truth which now pervades all schools of religious thought in this country.

## ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE peculiar training which the Irish Presbyterians have received, has prepared us for the very natural resolution at which the Supreme Court of the General Assembly of that body has arrived. The Court has resolved, by a majority of 337 to 8, to commute the incomes of the Irish Presbyterian ministers, in order to form a General Endowment Fund. It is assumed that this fund will realise nearly 100% for ministers, and it is proposed to subscribe the sum that will be necessary in order that every minister of the Church shall receive this salary in addition to any further sum that his congregation may choose to give him. As we have said, this resolution, all things considered, is natural. At the same time, we might add, it is a very foolish one. The Irish Presbyterians are notoriously the most penurious Christian body in the world. Their indisposition to make pecuniary sacrifices for the support of Christian worship, has been entirely owing to the fact that the Government, through the *Regium Donum*, has demoralised the action of the Christian conscience in relation to this duty. The commutation of the present life interests will have just the same effect. The endowment will continue, and with

it all its paralysing influence. The time will come, unless the Irish Presbyterian Church should, in the meantime, die of formalism, that the Church will rue the day when she declined to throw herself upon the sympathies of the people.

We have read, we think, without an atom of "green-eyed jealousy," the report of the ecclesiastical receptions which have been accorded to the Greek Archbishop of Syra. Several bishops—London, Rochester, Ely, and Colombo—sitting under the presidency of the Dean of Westminster, gave last week a very cordial welcome to his Grecian Eminence. On that occasion were heard sounds of honour to the Greek Patriarchate, to Turkish Mohammedans, as well as to "illustrious Pagan forefathers." 'Tis right, no doubt, that it should be so; but how odd does it all read when we know that the Church of England has not only excommunicated the members of the Greek Church, but has scarcely one serious bond of union with that Church. The Archbishop of York has followed suit with the Dean of Westminster, and bestowed a greeting of equal cordiality upon his archiepiscopal brother of Syra. We should have said, before reading this, that, on the whole, we Protestant Dissenters stand in a nearer relation to the Established Church than our cousin of Syra, but we shall look long before we get such a greeting. It is better as it is. Having done us the injury it has, and doing us the injury it does, it is better that there should be no ostentations but hollow offers of Christian fellowship. The sincerity that dictates holding aloof from us is, when its causes are analysed, more to be admired than the sentimental hypocrisy which welcomes the Archbishop of Syra—hypocrisy, that is to say, if the parties who welcomed him believe, one atom, in the Church of England.

The Ritual Commission has sat for many long and weary hours and days. Its third report is now before the public, and, on the whole, does not appear to be worth the time that has been bestowed upon it. It has, we are informed, carefully considered many schemes, and—well, it is of no use repeating its recommendations in detail, but the sum and substance of them is, that one "Lesson" is recommended to be changed for another, now and then, in the course of public Church services. The number taken from the Apocrypha is proposed to be reduced. "Bel and the Dragon" was carried against the Puritans some 208 years ago, and now all the bishops are of opinion that the loss of "Bel and the Dragon" the better. Just to think, however, that it has taken 208 years to beat this into the bishops' heads, and that almost constant sittings for two years were required in order that they might brace each other up to pronounce such a conclusion!

It is impossible to open many newspapers now without seeing some sketch of Church reform proposed by a clergyman. The last that has come under our notice is that of the Rev. J. R. Baldwin, of St. Paul's, Norwich, who, in a lecture recently delivered, advised a rather wholesale scheme in this direction. Mr. Baldwin said at the outset that although "an extremely active society, the Liberation Society, was devoting all its power and talents to an attack upon the Church," "the reform movement must come from within." The Liberation Society has, happily, never set itself to so fruitless a task as Church reform. It believes that reform will follow quickly enough when it has accomplished its work, and that nothing worth the name will be accomplished before that time. Mr. Baldwin, on the other hand, thinks that great reform is possible, but that if it be not accomplished, "in ten years time the Church of England will be placed in the same position as the Church of Ireland." He suggested, in order to avoid this catastrophe, first, an extension of the evangelistic spirit, and, next, the abolition of private patronage. It is well to quote what he says upon this subject:—

Patronage of the Church, in the hands of private individuals or public bodies, should cease for ever. Vested rights should, of course, be considered, and full compensation given. Appointments to all cures—he disliked the word "livings"—and the whole ecclesiastical revenue and property of the diocese, should be in the hands of the diocesan and his council, for the purpose of giving to the clergy in the diocese according to the needs of the population and the work which they had to perform. If the system of private patronage were to cease, and the clergy sent forth as in olden times as missionaries to this or that place according to the needs of the district, many difficulties which were now in the way would be removed. For instance, according to this scheme, a rural parish, with a population of 200 persons and an income of 1,000*l.* a year, would have a missionary with a stipend of 150*l.* per annum; whereas large city parishes would have a rector or a vicar, receiving 400*l.* or 500*l.* a year, and also four or five assistant missionaries paid according to their work.

The idea of paying any sort of Established Church ministers "according to their work," which may even mean according to the results of their work, will no

doubt be denounced at once, as it should be, as "revolutionary"; for it may extend to Deans and Canons at large, and then what could possibly become of Christianity in this kingdom? Mr. Baldwin, however, goes almost beyond this. He wants a more humble order of bishops; another style of cathedral organisation. He did not think that bishops should have more than 2,500*l.* a year, "at the very most." Then Mr. Baldwin, in his faith and innocence, calls upon the clergy to hold meetings in every parish in favour of Church reform; and, lastly, he enlarged upon the folly of Dissent. One thing modern Dissent has done, at any rate—it has produced Mr. Baldwin.

We are informed in the correspondence of the *Georgetown (Demerara) Creole*, that the feeling in favour of disendowment is growing very strong in the colonies, and one writer in rather a figurative style says:—"We all believe that the disendowment wave will soon be dashing over our own mudbanks." The authorities in Demerara appear to have carried matters with such a high hand, as really to have raised a strong feeling in favour of disestablishment. They have been lending money, without legal authority, for Episcopalian purposes, and they have advanced some 3,000*l.* for the Roman Catholic cathedral. They have been doing, in fact, just what will be done in Ireland if the proposed Government measure for granting loans for ecclesiastical purposes should be carried out. Not, however, we hope, with the same irregularity, for in Demerara, while the Clergy Act expires on the 31st of December, 1875, the Government and Council are making engagements under it, which will extend to 1877. "A Colonist" writes upon this to the *Creole*:—

This matter has come up at a good time; for immediately after the opening of Parliament, efforts will be made to ascertain the intentions of the Government concerning the proposed concurrent endowment scheme for Jamaica, and as this is I believe the only West Indian colony in which concurrent endowment exists, our Clergy Bill, and the above loans, will also in all probability be brought under the notice of the House of Commons, as showing the way in which money is paid and lent to certain favoured churches out of the general taxation of the colony, and which has therefore to be paid alike by Churchmen and Dissenters, Christians and heathens.

The obituary of this week contains the name of Mr. Andrew Coventry Dick, a name well-known in Scotland, and to a large extent in England, in connection with the Voluntary controversy. In the early years of the old Voluntary movement in Scotland Mr. Dick was very prominent, and in 1835 contributed to the questions a work entitled "A Dissertation on Church Polity," which is still a textbook upon the subject. He was a man of high literary culture, and an accomplished writer on other than ecclesiastical subjects. His death will recal the memory of many scenes in the early part of the Anti-State-Church movement. To the last he adorned the cause that he advocated.

#### RECOGNITION VERSUS ORDINATION.

A CORRESPONDENT, "E. E. L.," notices rather than complains that in the report of a commemorative service in which he was interested we substituted the word "recognition" for "ordination." He observes that "the distinction between the two is one that ought to be observed and kept." We are quite of his opinion, though probably on different grounds. We doubt not he accepts the current view that when a minister first enters upon a charge he is "ordained"; but that if he subsequently settles elsewhere, he is "recognised." This distinction implies that on his first settlement a pastor needs to be "ordained" by his brethren to give validity to the new relation. As a matter of fact this is not the case. It is a fiction—the church which has chosen him being the sole authority in the matter. It is misleading—for it favours the idea that ministers are inducted into a priestly order by the members of that order, which is a Papal but not a Congregational theory. It is impossible to draw any other conclusion from this, to our minds, injurious distinction. At a time when there is so much urgent need for the efforts of all earnest Christians to spread the Gospel, and for ministers to encourage the laity in taking their share of the work, it appears to us very undesirable to keep up such a barrier. If Congregationalists do not, even in a modified form, accept the theory of Apostolical succession, is it not better that they should not seem to do so? No one, probably, disputes the propriety and spiritual advantage of such services at the settlement of a minister. But in neither of the cases referred to do they pretend to be ceremonials or events of sacramental efficacy, but simply "recognition" services. That term exactly describes their significance. Why, then, should it not always be used?

#### THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

##### GREAT MEETING AT ASHTON.

The annual public meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Auxiliary to the Liberation Society was held in the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult. Long before the hour that it was announced the proceedings would commence, places were occupied on the platform and in the body of the hall, and a stream of people continued to flow until the room was completely filled. The platform was crowded, and many people were unable to get into the hall owing to its thronged state. Notwithstanding the number of persons present, and the predictions made by a few Tories that a disturbance would be inevitable, the proceedings were of the most orderly kind, and were characterised by good behaviour on the part of the vast audience that had assembled. The meeting was a great success, and fully realised the most sanguine anticipations of its promoters. Besides Mr. Edward Miall, M.P., and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, who formed the deputation from the Liberation Society, there were on the platform a great number of ladies and other gentlemen. There would be about 1,200 persons at the meeting.

It being stated that Mr. Hugh Mason was obliged by indisposition to be absent, Mr. Nathaniel Buckley was appointed chairman, and, after he had opened the proceedings,

The Rev. THOMAS GREEN, the local Secretary, presented a report, which described the action of the committee in support of the Irish Church Bill, and in connection with a very successful young men's conference. "But," continued the report, "your committee is much more desirous of preparing vigorously for the future than of recounting and displaying the trophies of the past. We have much work before us. The goal is not yet won. And it is a matter on which we may heartily congratulate ourselves that we are under such favourable circumstances. (Hear, hear.) Two of our most trusted captains are on our platform to-night—(loud cheers)—and we are proud to see them here. (Cheers.) Mr. Williams from the beginning has been the indefatigable, imperturbable secretary of the Society. Even the utmost stolidity of 'the stupid party' fails to damp his zeal, and the most aggravating of the clergy strive in vain to ruffle the serenity of his temper. (Laughter and cheers.) May he live to be the secretary of the Society till the Society itself shall no longer be needed! The honourable member for Bradford knows very well how heartily we welcome him here to-night. (Cheers.) When the electors of Bradford sent Mr. Miall to take his seat in that assembly, in which no man is more fittingly found, they put us in Ashton-under-Lyne, and all the friends of the Liberation Society, under great obligations. Your committee desires to convey to Mr. Miall their earnest congratulations that he is again in Parliament, and that in the session that has passed he has shown how well able he is (as in former days) to conduct the working out of those great questions with which history must always connect his name." The report closed by referring to the practical questions yet requiring attention.

The Rev. J. MEDICRAFT (Methodist New Connexion) then moved the following resolution, which was received with enthusiastic applause:—

That this meeting regards with the deepest satisfaction the abolition of the Church Establishment in Ireland, and also the termination of the system which established the religion of the minority at the expense of the majority in the island of Jamaica; and it more especially rejoices that in regard to both Ireland and Jamaica the proposal to endow various religious denominations has been decisively defeated.

He said that there were certainly two or three things on which they had to congratulate each other. In the first place, that was decidedly the largest annual meeting of the Ashton Auxiliary of the Liberation Society which had yet been held. They had also to be congratulated, especially, in regard to having present two members of the Society, who had done such admirable service in furthering the cause they had so much at heart. (Applause.) They had to congratulate the deputation on the admirable manner in which their object had been realised within the last two years, in the disestablishment of both the Established Church in Jamaica and in Ireland,—(applause)—two of the great outposts of that great system—a system of injustice that had been permitted in this country and its dependencies for such a length of time. (Hear, hear.) But they had gone—(applause)—and it seemed to him that the time was not far distant when the whole structure itself must succumb to the force of justice and wisdom, to say nothing of generosity. (Hear, hear.)

J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Esq., who on rising to second the motion was warmly cheered, said that that day fortnight the representatives of the people would assemble at Westminster for the purpose of transacting the political business of the nation, and he assumed that the session was looked forward to by the members of the Liberal party with as much interest as was the session of last year. The friends of religious equality, however, stood in a very different position from that which they occupied in January, 1869; for the Irish Establishment was now gone, and gone for ever. (Loud cheers.) After commenting on the Irish Church Act and the present state of Ireland, he said that if he had any doubt as to the future of the Irish Church, it was only because of the wealth with which it had been endowed, in the shape of compensation for vested interests. That Church had been likened to Hagar cast forth into the wilderness—(laughter)—but it struck him that she might be much more appropriately likened to the children of Israel fleeing from their captivity in

Egypt, laden with the spoils of the Egyptians. (Loud laughter.) He thought that would have better typified her than the casting out of poor Hagar, with her water-bottle. ("Hear, hear," and continued laughter.) He observed also, that the members of the Church were, unwisely in his opinion, endeavouring to increase the means of permanent endowment, so that the people would not be able to exercise over the clergy that control which they hoped to possess. They had also, in the year 1869, dealt with another Church in a distant part of the British dominions. At the occurrence of the Jamaica massacres, the newspapers were filled with the most horrible details of the sights then to be seen in that island; but, whether because they thought sufficient attention had been paid to Jamaica affairs for all time, or because disestablishment had now become quite a commonplace affair, most of the public journals ignored the subject. The speaker then proceeded to narrate the history of disestablishment in Jamaica, stating that in this case, as in the case of Ireland, while the Government had not accepted their principles, they had felt compelled, by stress of circumstances, to accept their policy, and they confidently predicted that the same issue would follow in reference to other struggles which had not yet commenced. Mr. Williams then proceeded to notice the demand for reform raised in the English Church, and insisted that it would not be obtained so long as it was established. He referred to the proposed changes in the lectionary of the Church, and ridiculed the idea of Parliament fixing the chapters of the Bible which people were to read in places of worship. He concluded by urging that, instead of the Society's work being closed, the need for its activity was greater than ever; though the reward of its labours was evidently nearer than it once appeared to be. Mr. Williams sat down amid very hearty cheers.

After the resolution had been unanimously carried,

The Rev. J. HUTCHINSON briefly moved the second, which urged the necessity for supporting the Society in its proposed aggressive action.

EDWARD MIAL, Esq., who rose to second the motion, was received with great enthusiasm, and said that Mr. Williams had spoken of the past, and of that he only wished to say, "Forgetting the things that are behind, we reach unto those that are before." ("Hear, hear," and loud cheers.) We have wrestled long and we have thrown our foe. ("Hear, hear.") It is true that we have not attained an entire victory over ecclesiastical exclusiveness and intolerance, but in the name of that Gospel which is love and power we intend to do so—("Hear, hear")—and in the name of the Lord of the Gospel who is Incarnate Love and who is Almighty Power, we believe most thoroughly that we shall do so. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) After describing the object Liberator had in view, and the spirit in which they worked, he said—"We have not done yet—(laughter and cheers)—we have put an end to this system in Ireland, and whilst I have been as reticent as any man could be respecting the influence and the power that were brought to bear upon the settlement of that question last session, I have no hesitation in saying, from all the knowledge that I have on the subject—and I have been working at this subject for nearly thirty years—that if there had not been a Liberation Society—an organisation formed upon what I call right and true substantial principles or political ecclesiastical principles—even that question would never have taken the ultimate shape which it has now taken in the form of law. ("Hear, hear.") Let me say, I give at the same time profound credit and reverence to Mr. Gladstone for having been, as a statesman, so entirely and completely seized with the idea of the national mind, and having put it so deftly and entirely into a shape which commended itself to the whole public, in the shape of law. And now the idea that comes home to us who have been working this question is just this—what is good for Ireland is good for England—("Hear, hear")—what is good for a minority, and what is due to a majority, is due to a majority, not for mere expedience's sake, but for justice's sake, is due also to a minority for justice's sake; for justice is not a thing that is measured out and determined by minorities and majorities, it is a thing which depends entirely upon the application of the judgment, of the moral sense—the sense of fairness and of equity. After describing the action and spirit of the English Establishment, Mr. Mial proceeded:—"Well, we must put an end to it—("Hear, hear")—not to the Church, but we must put an end to the system which leaves the Church in the possession of legal favouritism; that is all we want to do. ("Hear, hear.") Let me say one word upon this, and only one word; I am afraid it will be a little offensive, not to you perhaps, but to the nation at large—I do not know anything that is more insulting in spirit than the usual conduct of Churchmen towards Dissenters. ("Hear, hear.") I do not think that there is anything that so provokes resentment, aye, indignation, aye, contempt, as the mode in which Churchmen assume, because they have been favoured by the law, that they are altogether superior in their position and their feelings to the members of other Churches that are not established. Why, there is scarcely a cemetery in this kingdom in which Churchmen will allow themselves to be buried, even, in contact with Dissenters; worse than in Spain, quite as bad as you can find in any country in Europe. The most benighted Churchmen, without peaceably considering what are the consequences, or what may be the issues of their conduct, will stand up and resist to the utmost the administration of rites over the burial of the dead by a Dissenting minister, or by a Dissenting layman, as though it were a disgrace of their dead that they had

placed in the churchyard. They will throw the dead bodies of their friends overboard if they are sailors, they will bury them in the battle-field when it is not at all consecrated if they are soldiers, and they do not, as sensible men could not, regard the position of their friends as relating to the things of the world as in any manner affected by the rites of burial that are performed over them; and yet here at home, in our parochial churchyards, where we pay a part of the expenses, which are as much our property as their property, which belong to us just as much as they belong to them, and which, in a great number of instances, are the property of a large majority of the inhabitants of the parish, the Church-people often being a small minority, even here the clergyman of the Church of England will often 'play such fantastic airs before high Heaven as make the angels weep.' They step forward at any time—I mean some of them—to lacerate the feelings of humanity just in that hour of bereavement when the feelings of humanity are most laid bare to any external influences that might injure or hurt them; and they seem to regard that as a part of their religion! Gracious heavens! that a man should regard it as a part of the religion of mourners, when they have in the Gospel the example of our Lord in raising the son of the widow of Nain, and when they have other Scriptural examples beautiful and glorious and true, that these men should so mistake the honour of Christianity and the spirit of Christianity as to imagine that they are promoting the glory of Christ by drawing a line of distinction between one sect and another sect, not in regard to church communion, but in regard to the position of the dead! I visited Rochdale last week—a place that I represented some five or six years ago—and I find that the utmost stretch of liberality there even is this—that the Churchman's portion is parcelled off by geological specimens of different stones throughout the kingdom, planted at certain intervals all round the division. Only just think of any denomination of Christianity outside the Establishment being guilty of that utter meanness—for meanness it is—and that utter intolerance—for intolerance it is. ("Hear, hear.") Only think of that! We are going to try to put an end to that. ("Hear, hear," and loud cheers.) I may say, in passing, that we have a sort of indirect promise on the part of Government that they will help us to put an end to that—(cheers)—and I earnestly hope that, during the next session, we shall be able to put an end at all events to this—to the exclusiveness of those who won't perform religious rites over the burial of the dead in our parochial churchyards, in consequence of their not being members of the Church Establishment of the realm." ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) He next adverted to the abolition of University Tests, which, he thought, not even Conservatives would long resist. He concluded thus:—"We have begun the work; we have set upon taking the great citadel, we intend to go up towards it; we are going abroad scattering our seed of knowledge and of truth, and we hope the result will be an abundant harvest, and I cannot help thinking that within the lifetime of many here present, when the report will be made to some meeting in Ashton ten years hence, or even in less time than that, it may be said that the victory has been accomplished, that truth has been set free, that Government has retired to its own province, that religion is free to go to the ends of the earth, and to put forth all its beauty and its power, and that there is now some prospect of that time which has been predicted by inspired prophets, when 'all knees shall bow, and all tongues shall confess that Christ is Lord to the glory of God.'" (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

After a working man in the meeting had complained that the middle classes had taken possession of the grammar schools intended for the poor,

A. E. REYNOLDS, Esq., in a pointed speech, moved the reappointment of the local committee, and the Rev. A. CRAN, of Droylsden, seconded the motion, which, as were the others, was carried unanimously.

The Rev. J. HUGHES, in moving a vote of thanks to the deputation, referred to the Establishment in Wales, and Mr. J. WATERHOUSE eulogised Messrs. Mial and Williams for their services.

Mr. WILLIAMS, in reply, said he expected in coming to Ashton, after their dismal defeat at the last election—(a laugh)—to find them, if not in despair, at least cast down, but they seemed to have learned the lesson of Mark Tapley, and to know how to be jolly under the most adverse circumstances. (Laughter.) That was a good omen, and he predicted that when the bill for the disestablishment of the English Church was before Parliament, it would be supported by the vote of the member for Ashton. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, which

Mr. MIAL seconded, and in doing so referred to a visit paid by him to Ashton thirty-five years ago, when he occupied the pulpit of the Rev. J. Sutcliffe.

The resolution was carried with acclamation, and the meeting broke up at ten o'clock. *Abridged from the Ashton News.*

WAKEFIELD.—This town has been the scene of repeated discussions on the State Church question, but the meeting held on the 26th of January indicated that the supporters of the Establishment have grown weary of the conflict, since they failed to put in an appearance. The meeting in the Music-hall was presided over by Mr. W. H. Lee, and the deputation on the occasion consisted of the Society's secretary and the Rev. W. Best, of Leeds. Both gentlemen made many references to recent political and ecclesiastical events bearing on the Society's object,—references which were evidently received

with hearty appreciation. Resolutions were moved and seconded by Mr. I. Briggs, Rev. H. Hurdin, Rev. H. Sanders, Rev. J. Eastmead, Mr. Calverley, Rev. G. Barnby and Mr. Sellers. In acknowledging a vote of thanks, Mr. Williams congratulated the meeting on the significant quietness by which it had been characterised, and, at the same time, expressed his admiration at the earnestness and energy displayed by the Rev. Messrs. Eastmead and Catterall, Mr. Lee and others, in carrying on the discussions of previous years.

OTHER MEETINGS.—The *Liberator* for February records meetings and lectures at Colne, Nelson, Shaw, Great Harwood, and Wigan, in Lancashire; Keighley and Longwood, in Yorkshire; and at Tunstall. Also meetings at Llangollen and three other places in North Wales, and a batch of meetings in Scotland, for the details of which we are unable to find room.

## THE SION COLLEGE CONFERENCE.

THEORIES OF COMPREHENSION.

(From the *Inquirer*.)

Such a conference as that held at Sion College last week, fairly representing the various schools of thought within the Church of England, was quite sufficient to show that irreconcilable differences exist within the same communion, ready to fly off from each other at a tangent when the controlling influence of the State is once withdrawn. No sooner had Sir John Coleridge concluded the very striking address of which we gave some account in our last number, than the elements of disunion at once became manifest. The invocation to brotherly union and universal concord in a Parliamentary Church were met by protests from both parties, equally emphatic, although founded upon premises which were essentially antagonistic and exclusive of each other.

First, a venerable clergyman of the Evangelical school, the Rev. J. H. MORAN, rose to deliver his protest and express his entire dissent. He believed that the Protestant Reformation was the work of God, and could only be maintained by the Spirit of God, and not by the Parliamentary control on which the Solicitor-General relied. He maintained that the Articles of the Church of England exhibit in clear, distinct, and unmistakable language, the truth of Holy Scripture in all their great and leading points: to him they were not "forty stripes save one," and he hoped that the day would never come when they would be given up—a declaration which, we grieve to write, was received with very unclerical derision. He believed the Erastian statements of Sir John Coleridge to be both unscriptural and contrary to the teachings of the Church of England. The Church of Christ was something definite, decided, and according to the Scriptures of truth, and not everything or anything which statesmen might choose to make it. If the Reformation were worth taking it was worth maintaining.

So much for the Evangelical protest, which did not seem to touch a responsive chord in the clerical assembly, but which, nevertheless, sufficed to show that the large and still influential Evangelical party would regard a "comprehensive Church" as fatally deficient in the notes of what they conscientiously believe to be sound Scriptural truth. One-third at least, then, of the present members of the Established Church would probably be excluded by such a return to the "primitive simplicity" as that advocated by the Solicitor-General.

Next came the High Church protest. The Rev. Mr. MacLagan, the well-known rector of Newton, in a remarkably clear and well-delivered speech, said that unless he believed he was teaching primitive truth on primitive authority, he could not teach it at all. In reply to the Solicitor-General's anti-sacerdotal remarks, he boldly affirmed that if he did not believe that he had Divine commission to teach men, he should not venture to stand up Sunday after Sunday to discharge the office of the priesthood. He protested against the "most dangerous principle" laid down in Sir John Coleridge's address, that the amount of latitude in the Church of England was to be regulated by the progress of popular opinions, and the extent of divergence entertained by the people for the time being, and that if difference of opinion increased, that latitude must be extended. He regarded himself as a priest of the Christian Church, and not as an official of the State. The progress of democracy cannot alter truth as taught by the Church of Christ, and if the dogmas of the Church were to be regulated by the progress of democracy, then there was no standard of truth whatever. Differences of opinion within the Church are now extending to the Articles of the Apostles' Creed. He would part with the Thirty-nine Articles without a pang, and many other things would pass away with them. He took his stand upon the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds. But the men who are now resigning their orders do not differ merely from the Thirty-nine Articles, but on the foundation truths of the Church of England, and if the Articles and many other things were yielded, we should find just as great a clamour that the Apostles' Creed, too, should be given up. Mr. MacLagan went on to express his alarm at the progress of latitude of thought in this country, and his fears that we are tending to a state of things when the remnant of those who hold fast to the truth of Christ would be exceedingly small, and the bulk of the world would be on the other side. The

day might come, he said, when to profess belief even in the Apostles' Creed would be to expose oneself to ridicule and even persecution. The truth of Christ is not our own, and there was no liberality in giving up things not our own; for his own part, he could not accept *vox populi as vox Dei*.

So much for the High Church protest, which is so thoroughly representative in its whole tone, that it would be safe to assume that another one-third, if not a larger portion, of professed members of the Established Church of England would be self-excluded from such a Parliamentary and comprehensive Church as that sketched out by the Solicitor-General.

Next rose the representative of the third school of thought in the Church of England, the champion of the most advanced thought of the Liberal clergy, the genial, accomplished, and truly Catholic Dean of Westminster. He began by remarking that the Solicitor-General seemed to imply that an essential change had taken place in the composition of the Houses of Parliament since the days when it consisted entirely of Churchmen. The Dean made some at least of his hearers open their eyes when he added that there never was any period in history in which Protestant Nonconformists were excluded from the House of Commons, and that Roman Catholics could sit in the House of Lords until the times of Charles II., so that during a very prolonged period Parliament was a mixed body, while the Long Parliament had a very much larger number of Nonconformists than the present House. With regard to tests and clerical subscription, he thought that Sir John Coleridge had spoken a little too much as if we were in the same condition as we were ten years ago. He was in favour of getting rid of subscription altogether, as a cumbersome thing unknown to the Church before the Reformation, and to the Primitive Church. But the present subscriptions have been greatly modified; all the old complicated subscriptions to every one of the Articles and to every part of the Liturgy have within the last few years been entirely swept away. He could not say that the present form of subscription was altogether good, but the change from the old form to the present was as great as if they had to change from the present form to the total abolition of subscription. Every Church that needlessly multiplies its subscriptions departs from the primitive Church. Whether on the Liberal latitudinarian side, or on the dogmatic side, we must make up our minds to consider this question in the most comprehensive spirit. We have a very moderate form of subscription at present; there is no one single statement to which any clergyman is pledged; he is only pledged to the general doctrine contained in the Articles and Formularies. The Dean concluded by saying that there is one class of persons from whom we ought to claim perfect openness of speech on these subjects, and that is the bishops. It was with very great regret that he read the letter of the Public Orator of Cambridge resigning orders; and that no answer whatever had been given by the Bishop of Ely to assure Mr. Clark that the very same sentiments contained in that letter were entertained by himself and every clergyman in the country.

So much for the Broad Church theory, which is evidently scarcely calculated to reconcile the conflicting theories of the previous Evangelical and Sacerdotalist protesters. "Perfect openness of speech" from the Bishops on matters of theological opinion would certainly be a striking novelty, for which the Church, we fancy, is hardly yet quite prepared, while it might be attended with inconvenient consequences to some of the free-speaking Bishops themselves, as Bishop Colenso has already found. It will be remembered that the Public Orator, in his letter to the Bishop of Ely, stated that he could no longer express his conscientious belief in "all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testament," inasmuch as "some portion of the Scriptures now seem to him to be of doubtful genuineness, and others to contain erroneous statements in history, and questionable teaching in theology and morals"; while in addition to this there are passages in the Liturgy which he cannot now repeat with full assent. Only imagine a bishop declaring, as Dean Stanley recommends, that he entertained precisely the same opinions. We fancy that the Temple disturbance would be nothing to the outbreak of clerical wrath that would follow, and that the poor bishop would soon find that uneasy would lie the particular head that wears that mitre. We were not at all surprised, therefore, to find that a clergyman rose, immediately after the Dean's speech, and in somewhat excited terms, repudiating all sympathy with the letter of the Public Orator, wanted to know what was meant by the statement that his sentiments were entertained by the bishop and every clergyman in the country. The Dean immediately replied, "One of the grounds on which the Public Orator resigned orders was that he could not believe all the Canonical Scriptures; does any clergyman in this room believe in the genuineness of 1 John v. 7?" To this there was no reply, whereat we wondered.

We have given a sufficient account of this extremely interesting conference to indicate the conflicting views entertained by diverging schools of thought within the Church; and to show that comprehension, however desirable, is impossible until divines are much more agreed upon the essential articles of the Christian faith than they are ever likely to be in this world, and especially in the present National Church. We must pass rapidly over the remainder of the proceedings. There were several more exceedingly interesting speeches from representative men, both clerical and lay, but they were, for the most part re-

petitions of the various views already laid before our readers. It was evident that the burden of subscription, even in its present modified form, is pressing very heavily upon tender consciences. Scarcely a speaker was there who did not concede that some portion of the Church formularies was to him a stumbling-block. To the High Churchmen the Articles are an offence; to the Low Church, some parts of the Liturgy; to the Broad Churchman, the Athanasian Creed. A clergyman who followed Dean Stanley at the Sion College Conference—the Rev. Mr. Humphrey, rector of St. Martin's, Strand, brother-in-law of Bishop Colenso—wished that, instead of the Thirty-nine Articles, with their four hundred and twenty theological statements, the Church had something more simple, and expressed his belief that the simplification of tests was quite consistent with the maintenance of the Church of England. Both schools, he added, that which upholds authority and that which upholds freedom, are desirous of abolishing the Thirty-nine Articles. The three creeds would not be accepted as a substitute, because one of them has no Catholic authority, and the other two, if put together, would still be found very deficient in many points desirable to have set forth as essential doctrines of faith. Mr. Humphrey hopefully anticipated a period when there would be a Council of the Church for the simplification of its tests; while, at the same time, he thought that the Church was never in less danger of being undermined, or showed greater vitality, and had a larger number of warm supporters than at the present time.

The Rev. Llewelyn Davies, of Marylebone, acknowledged that the position of every clergyman was beset with difficulties. But we ought, he said, to make the best of things. In the primitive apostolic age no tests were required; and there was greater reluctance in this age of freedom to force one's own conclusions on other people. He quoted with approval the remark of a Roman Catholic, that he preferred the present open unbelief to the latent suppressed unbelief of the Middle Ages—the so-called Age of Faith. The great problem was how the religion of the Church may step by step be adjusted to the present wants of society. The tests must be abolished, and they must be prepared to make still greater changes. So far as the general Christian belief is embodied with the limits of the Church of England, clergymen were doing their duty to the Church and great service to the country.

We must pass over for want of space the speeches of two eminent Queen's Counsel, Mr. Pearson and Mr. Hobhouse, who admirably expressed the views of the liberal and cultivated laity very much in harmony with those advocated in Sir John Coleridge's opening address. We have only to add that the Solicitor-General, in replying briefly, reaffirmed the opinions of his opening paper. A National Church in a free country, he emphatically reasserted, is incompatible with anything like stern, exclusive, dogmatic teaching. The two things are not consistent with each other. They must take their choice between a broader, wider Church, with a broader, wider Christianity, than that contained in the Thirty-nine Articles, or a narrow, exclusive Church which must give up the claims to be a National Church, the representative of the highest religious life of the nation.

#### IRISH DISESTABLISHED CHURCHES AND COMMUTATION.

The serious question whether the clergy of the disestablished religious communities in Ireland shall commute, and help to constitute with their incomes and the bonus on commutation promised by the State, a fund for the future support of religion, was decided on Thursday, by a remarkable division at the meeting of the "Supreme Court" of the Presbyterian General Assembly in Belfast. It is felt that the precedent thus made will exert a powerful influence upon the determination at which the Episcopal clergy will be expected by the laity to arrive. It is therefore likely that commutation in both Churches will be accomplished before the close of the year. Very able addresses were delivered in its favour in the Belfast Assembly; and in particular that of Mr. Thomas Sinclair, containing a plan for a sustentation fund based on commutation, had a great effect in producing the decision which has been come to. It is reported that the non-commutationists "refused to vote," but as 337 ministers and elders registered their votes for commutation, and the entire body numbers only about 550, the objectors stand in a decided minority. Eight votes were recorded against the scheme.

It appears from the report of the "Endowment Committee," read before the General Assembly, that the Presbyterian body have been in communication with the Government on the question, "At what time their ministers were to be brought into relationship with the Church Commissioners." At a meeting of the committee held in Derry on the 10th of August, 1869, it was agreed that the Moderator should communicate with the Irish Church Commissioners as to the mode and time of commutation. The answer to that was that they would not answer the question until it was brought officially before them. The Moderator, on the 9th of December, wrote to Mr. Gladstone, saying that the time of commutation was a matter of consequence, as life interests were dropping, and begging to know at what time the ministers of Assembly were to be brought into relationship with the Irish Church Commissioners. The sooner this was done the better, and it was necessary to know at what time the *Regium Donum* would be discontinued. Mr.

Gladstone replied that he would communicate with the Irish Church Commissioners. No further communication was received, and the Moderator wrote again, trusting that it would not be found necessary to place the *Regium Donum* on the Parliamentary estimates for the ensuing year. Then came the letter from the Chief Secretary for Ireland, intimating that the *Regium Donum* would not be put again in the estimates. After the ministers once came into relationship with the Commissioners, the *Regium Donum* would be as regularly paid as from the Treasury itself.

The *Northern Whig* bestows hearty commendation upon the Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly (Professor Smyth), the Rev. C. Morell, the ex-Moderator, and several others, ministers and laymen, for the energy and prudence shown, in their persevering efforts to carry the commutation scheme. The result seems to be accepted in Ulster with an almost universal welcome. It was known that, had the ministers decided otherwise at their meeting, a clerical and lay feud would have been established in many districts which it would have taken a long time to heal again. The *Whig* says that "the most gratifying feature of the proceedings was the conduct of the poorer country clergy. So far from being opposed to commutation, or ready to declare that they had distinct and opposite interests to the laity, it was found that it was among those less wealthy brethren in rural districts that the most disinterested and generous spirit was shown." The threatened refusal of a minority to acquiesce in the decision of the Assembly is not regarded as seriously intended.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church held an open meeting on Saturday, and adopted the plan of commutation which had been considered at a private sitting on the previous day. The following are the salient points of the scheme:—They do not propose to interfere with congregational arrangements as to stipend, but recommend that each minister should receive an income of 100*l.* a year, instead of 69*l.*, the amount of *Regium Donum*, independent of payments from their congregations. They propose to provide this income from two funds, the commutation fund realised by arrangement with the Government under the Act, and a sustentation fund raised by the Church, amounting at least to 50,000*l.* a year. They calculate that an average subscription of 1*d.* per week from every communicant would produce 27,000*l.*, while 6*d.* a month from two out of every five of the adherents of the Church would realise 60,000*l.* They propose that the fund shall be vested in trustees, who shall pay the annuities out of the interest of the commutation, augmented by the sustentation fund, and in the remote possibility of both failing, then out of the principal. A competent actuary is to be appointed to value the assets and liabilities of the trust for three years and report to the next meeting of the Assembly. After all claims upon the fund have been satisfied, it is to revert to the General Assembly to form a permanent endowment fund. The trustees shall have power to purchase a Government annuity for every communicant who desires it, but in that case the amount of investment above the equivalent for *Regium Donum* paid from the sustentation fund shall be diminished in proportion to the lesser interest derived from the commutation money. Commutation should commence at the earliest period, and no minister who does not commute for the benefit of the Church shall be entitled to any benefit from the sustentation fund.

The strong committee to whom was entrusted the task of preparing a draught constitution for the Irish Church has almost finished its work, after very anxious and assiduous labour. The report will be in the hands of every member of the General Convention this week. It is understood it will recommend that the bishops be allowed a separate vote and a power of veto—a proposal which at first met with very determined opposition from the laity, but which mature consideration has induced them to look upon with greater favour—that the Church Body proposed by the committee is to consist of the bishop of each diocese, *ex officio*, one clerical and one lay representative, and one learned assessor chosen from the laity by their representatives, but liable to be set aside by the General Synod; that the meetings of the General Synod be held every three years, and that one-third of the representatives in the Church Bodies, lay and clerical alternately, retire by rotation at every triennial meeting; that the Church Body shall have the management of the Church funds vested in it by charter, and report its acts and accounts at each meeting of the General Synod. The *Daily Express*, which gives a sketch of the plan, objects to some of the details.

The archbishops will convene a meeting of the General Convention for the 15th of February to consider it. It is said by some, however, that the meeting on so early a day can be only a formal one, and that an adjournment will take place after the standing orders to rule the deliberations of the body have been agreed upon.

#### THE ANGLICAN AND GREEK CHURCHES.

A banquet was given on Tuesday evening, January 25th, in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster Abbey, in honour of the Archbishop Lycurgus, of Syra and Tenos. The number of those present was necessarily limited to forty, amongst whom were the Greek Minister, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Rochester, the Bishop of Ely, the Bishop of Colombo, the Earl of Glasgow, Lord Elgin, the Archimandrites in the suite of the Archbishop, Mr. Crawford, M.P., Sir R. Phillimore, Mr. Mavrocordato, &c. The Dean of Westminster, in proposing

"The health of his Holiness the Archbishop of Syra and Tenos," referred to the entertainment given by his illustrious predecessor Dean Williams more than 200 years ago in that chamber, to the French ecclesiastics who came over to negotiate the marriage of Prince Charles with the Princess Henrietta Maria. "Our entertainment this evening," he continued, "is of a humbler kind. It has been provided—how? Not by royal command, not to cement regal marriages, but by the kindness of private friends, and to express cordial sympathy between man and man, between sister races and between sister Churches. It is useful even for Englishmen to be reminded by the presence of our guest that there is a land more dear to us from our childhood even than England; that there is a city more sacred even than Rome, or Geneva, or Westminster; that land is the land of the East, and that city is Jerusalem. There are many clouds that hang over the modern Greek kingdom, the modern Greek race, and the modern Greek Church. But, in its quickness, its readiness, its eagerness for instruction, the people is well worthy of its illustrious Pagan forefathers. The Greek and English have one character in common; they are national Churches. We have our vocation; the Greeks have theirs. We have our faults; they have theirs. Let us each do the best we can, and we shall be pursuing the best, because the only, practical course towards the attainment of our common end. With thoughts like these, which have been suggested by the presence of our distinguished guest, and with the utmost sincerity and cordiality of feeling, I beg now to propose, 'The health of his Holiness the Archbishop of Syra and Tenos,' adding a wish which I have often heard from the lips of a wayfarer on the hillside of his native country—'May your years be many.' The last words were spoken in Greek, to the manifest surprise and gratification of the distinguished guest of the evening. As the Archbishop does not speak English, the Greek consul replied for his Holiness in a brief and effective French speech. Subsequently, the Bishop of London spoke, and expressed the regret of the Archbishop of Canterbury at not being able to be present on this peculiarly interesting occasion.

The Archbishop of York has been entertaining the Archbishop of Syra and Tenos at his palace of Bishopthorpe. On Saturday the Eastern prelate attended service at the Minster, and was afterwards presented with an address from the English Church Union. The Archbishop's reply was made in Greek, translated for the benefit of the vulgar by Dr. Thompson, an accomplished Grecian. In it the Archbishop referred to the connection of the Emperor Constantine and his mother with York, and the great services they rendered to the cause of Christianity in the past, and expressed his earnest desire for union between the Greek and English Churches.

#### THE COUNCIL AT ROME.

A Paris telegram, bearing the date of Saturday, states that private advices from Rome deny the truth of the news published in the *Unita Cattolica* to the effect that the petition advocating the definition of the dogma of the Pope's personal infallibility had been presented to the Pope with 410 signatures attached. The counter-petition has been signed by the greater portion of the French bishops and almost the entire German and Hungarian hierarchy. Another petition, that of the "third party," demanding the adoption of a formula which shall have the character of a compromise, has been received with approval by most of the Spanish and English bishops.

According to the *Standard* correspondent, 142 signatures are attached to the counter-petition. It has been actually presented.

The following is a translation of the principal parts of the anti-infallibility address, drawn up by Cardinal Rauscher, Archbishop of Vienna, which will be shortly presented to the Pope, with the signatures of a large number of the bishops taking part in the Council:—

Most Holy Father,—We have received the draught of a petition circulating among the Fathers of the Ecumenical Council, and calling upon them to declare supreme and infallible authority to be vested in the Roman Pontiff when imparting apostolical teaching to all the faithful upon subjects connected with religion and morals. As regards the authority which the faithful are obliged to concede to the Roman Pontiff, this has been settled by the Council of Trent, and also by the Council of Florence. The decrees of the latter, particularly, ought to be the more faithfully observed inasmuch as, having been enacted with the common consent of Latins and Greeks, they are destined some day, when the Lord will take pity on the Orient now oppressed with so many evils, to become the basis of the reunion of the Church. Nor must we leave it unmentioned that at a time when the Church is compelled more earnestly than ever to wage war against those who denounce religion as a mere fiction, vain and idle indeed, yet pernicious to the human race, it cannot be opportune to exact of the Catholic nations, already exposed to so much seduction and temptation, heavier duties (*majora*) than were enjoined on them by the Council of Trent. It is true that although Bellarmine and with him the whole Catholic Church affirms that matters of faith are to be chiefly decided by Apostolical tradition and the common consent of the Church, and although the best way to ascertain the decision of the Church is to convene a Universal Synod, yet from the Council of the Apostles and Elders of Jerusalem down to the Council of Nice have the innumerable errors of the local churches been checked and extinguished by the decisions of the successors of St. Peter, approved by the entire Church. Nor do we deny that, while all faithful believers are bound to obey the behests of the Holy See, there are pious and erudite men teaching over and above this that any utterances of the Supreme Pontiff on matters

of religion and morality, when formally (*ex cathedra*) made and announced, must be held irrefragable, albeit lacking the express consent of the Church. Yet we must not omit stating that grave objections to this teaching may be based on the acts and utterances of the Fathers of the Church—objections supported by the evidence of genuine historical documents and the Catholic doctrine itself. Unless the difficulties arising from this circumstance are entirely solved and done away with, it is impossible that the doctrine advocated in the above-mentioned petition will some day be inculcated on the Christian people as one revealed by the Almighty. We have no wish to dwell upon this prospect (*verum ab hisce discutiendis refigit animus*), and confidently entreat thee to obviate the necessity of such a discussion. We are certain, moreover, that such an event in one part of Europe, at any rate, would be taken advantage of by the Governments to infringe the remnant of rights still possessed by the Church.

We (*Morning Post*) learn from Rome, upon the best authority, that the declarationists are now sure of carrying their point, and that the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope will certainly be voted by the Ecumenical Council, and be promulgated as an article of faith to the Catholic world. The dogmata of the Immaculate Conception and Corporeal Assumption of the Virgin will follow, and the doctrines of the Syllabus will be formally endorsed. The doctrine of Papal Infallibility being opposed to the Gallican Church, disliked by the Chief of the nation, and repudiated by the French people, it is not a little singular that its promulgation should take place in a city where order and authority are only maintained by the presence of a French force. This consideration points to a very obvious conclusion—if the law of cause and effect only follow its course. On the other hand, the Roman correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, in a letter dated last Friday, says:—"At the French Embassy they say there is an understanding with the Cabinet of the Tuilleries that the dogma of infallibility shall not be proclaimed."

A correspondent of the *Times* reports the distribution among the prelates of a scheme relative to the Pontiff of great importance. He says: "Although the infallibility is not enunciated in so many words, the Pope's personal authority is defined in a sense fuller than I believe, ever has been authoritatively ascribed to it. He is distinctly declared to be the absolute Head—superior to and independent of Councils—of an infallible Church. The document then touches on the various political topics already struck at in the Syllabus, confirms the Divine right of Princes, and reprobates the doctrine of recognising *its accomplis* (this is but a reiteration of the condemnation of the custom of non-intervention in Article 62 of the Syllabus), as also the practice of universal suffrage. But the most important portion of this set of Articles is the one defining the Pope's Divine right to his temporal power."

The same correspondent writing on the 25th says:—"The first schedule of canons and decrees on Discipline has shared the fate of the first schedule on Faith, and there is no longer a doubt that all the matter presented to the Council hitherto has been virtually rejected in its original form, and referred to the committees for important modifications. On Saturday there were five speakers. One was an American, whether from the Southern States or from South America I cannot be sure, but I think the former. He lamented the low position of the bishops, their slight appreciation and respect. How could it be otherwise? All authority was centred in Rome. A bishop, through his instructions always coming from Rome, and being looked for from Rome, found himself in continual opposition to the aspirations of the people. The speaker's remedy was the very contrary of the projects before the Council, for he would have the bishops elected by the clergy and people, when they all would be more in accord and would work better together. The sentiment, I am told, was so loudly applauded as to stagger the Legate presiding; but, warned by the fate of the rejected schedule on Faith, he practised a ruse, which at least covered his retreat. He called up Gandolphi, Bishop of Civita Vecchia, who declared his agreement with what the American had said; 'but,' he added, 'we have had enough of this; let us pass on to another schedule.' That, I suppose, would be one on the relations of the Pope with the civil power. However, there arose a general murmur of disapprobation at the sudden stop thus put to a line of observation which evidently found an echo in many episcopal breasts. A gloomy silence followed. But, so far as I hear, matters are not likely to mend at present. The schedule last mentioned—viz., that defining the proper relations of the civil power—is said to lay under excommunication all who do not recognise the temporal power of the Pope."

Another correspondent has more definite information on this last-named subject. He says:—"The proposed decree, under five distinct heads, condemns—1, the pretended rights of universal suffrage; 2, the abolition of 'religious'; 3, the appropriation of ecclesiastical property; 4, mixed education; 5, the theory of accomplished facts. Against these heresies the decree is to affirm, in four dogmas—1, the sovereignty of Divine right; 2, the right and sanctity of religious profession; 3, the right of the Church to hold property; 4, the temporal power of the Pope. The tone of the last is said to be most defiant, as if to bring things to a speedy issue one way or the other. The anathema is to fall upon every man who presumes to doubt the necessity of the Pope having any temporal power, or even to question the wholesomeness of sacerdotal influence in civil powers. Except upon the old maxim, that a man may as well be hung for a sheep as for a lamb, one cannot understand the Pope's people increasing their demands in the face of an ever-increasing determination to resist them altogether. It may be

that the court here—seeing the real strength of the Council so dead against it, and duly apprised at the same time by the persons best qualified to say it that the Catholic Powers intend to hold all their own and will stand no nonsense—has resolved at least to put its pretensions on record, with whatever practical success. But the men now thundering against the Vatican within its own walls have ambassadors and nations at their back."

It is stated that at a recent sitting of the Council Dupanloup spoke an hour-and-a-quarter, in a tone of uncompromising opposition to the proposed canons and decrees before the Council. The Court of Rome, he said, had usurped the rights of the bishops; it had dispensed privileges as favours, and that to priests without ever consulting their bishops. It was rather a time to restore the episcopal power to its integrity than to crush it altogether. Even as matters now stand, it was difficult for the bishops to keep their clergy in order, but the proposed changes would make them utterly ungovernable. The Apostolic Constitutions, he said, had been falsified. The government of the Church was no longer in the hands of the Sacred College, but of a few persons who were hurrying everything to ruin.

Mgr. Strossmeyer, the distinguished Bishop of Bosnia, made another great speech on the 22nd, which so impressed his hearers that it was said by one nothing equal had been heard since the times of the ancient Roman Senate in the Latin language. The prelate's subject was the centralisation and absolutism of the Papal Curia; his aim to show the necessity of thorough reform at this centre and of a restoration of independent action, at least far beyond that now admitted to the episcopal body. Answering the Bishop of Moulins, Mgr. Dreux-Bresé, who had spoken in justification of the Roman system at the previous session, he said that the French Bishop's argument—i.e., there might be abuses, but our Father, the Pope, was at hand, and best qualified to repress or reform as necessary—might be met by the admonition that our Mother, the Church, was also at hand, and authorised to act before any other power, where her essential interests were concerned. Mgr. Strossmeyer was listened to with the profoundest attention, and spoke uninterruptedly for about two hours; after which a few other discourses, not important, were read from MS. Mgr. Dupanloup is known to have complimented that most eloquent prelate by declaring that he had equalled all the force and lucidity ever displayed by Thiers.

The *Tablet* says that "the Pope will have during the present year to provide for an expenditure of 2,422,960*l.*, besides the extraordinary expenses arising from the Council of the Vatican. The estimated revenue is only 1,218,840*l.*, leaving a deficiency of 1,204,120*l.*" Three-halves in the year from each Catholic will suffice to meet the deficiency.

Père Gratry, of the Oratory, who is also a member of the French Academy, has addressed a letter to Mgr. Deschamps which has created quite a panic among the Ultramontanes of France, who fear the reverend father will prove a second Hyacinthe. The main subject of the letter is the condemnation of Pope Honorius as heretical by the 6th Council, whose judgment was endorsed by the 7th and 8th Councils, and subsequently by Pope Leo II.; but Father Gratry adds some curious facts. He affirms that in the older breviaries up to the end of the 16th century reference was made to the anathema passed on Sergius Pyrrhus and Honorius. After the 16th century the name of Honorius drops out. It has also been omitted since 1830 in the authorised histories of the early Councils. Thus, within the last three centuries the breviaries first, and then the histories, have been systematically falsified. "Such," he says, "is the lying and intolerable narrative given us of the 6th Council. Never was there perpetrated in history a more audacious piece of knavery, a more insolent suppression of most important facts. If the Fathers of the present Council are to be called upon to vote on the question of infallibility, many perhaps will acclaim it, because their Roman breviary, summing up a long series of frauds by a last and solemn lie, has deceived them on the facts of Pope Honorius, condemned as a heretic by the 6th Council. But will lies profit God, the Church, the Papacy? Neither the Papacy, nor the Church, nor God wish for lies. *Numquid indiget Deus mendaciis vestris?*" The writer concludes with an earnest demand that the doers of these iniquities be "denounced." For himself he declares that he believes firmly that "he writes by command of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, and out of love of the Church. The lowest of men can and do receive such a command. He has received it, and in order to obey it, is ready to suffer all he may have to suffer."

An "Eye Witness," describing in the *Univers* the entrance of the bishops into the Council-hall at Rome, thus writes of Dr. Manning:—"He is smiling, and an ecclesiastic stops him to kiss his episcopal ring. He salutes graciously some whom he recognises around him. His age begins to show itself, but, there is something joyous and radiant in his air. This prelate must be, if one may judge by his appearance, full of true and unwearied gentleness."

Many of the bishops will return to their dioceses for the festival of Easter. The majority, being either old or poor, are very desirous that the Council should be dissolved by St. Peter's Day. This is also the earnest wish of the Pope, whose expenses for hospitality amount to 10,000 francs a day, and who is nearly at the end of his resources.

In a very powerful article on the subject of the Council, the *Times* expresses its belief that we are on the eve of some great change in the condition of the Roman Catholic Church. There was calmness, and almost the apathy of death, in the Roman Catholic world little more than two years ago. The Pope's

vanity, however, grew upon him as life waned. He was determined that the latter end of the nineteenth century should be called "the age of Pius IX." He conceived the grand idea of an Ecumenical Council. What was the Council to do? Infallibility itself might mean everything or nothing. Had the Pope promulgated it without summoning a Council, or merely gathered together a few bishops for an unmeaning ceremony, as he did in 1864, the announcement would have created as little sensation as the definition of the *Sine Labe* then produced. The Church was infallible; the Pope was the Church. Had there never been a Council, there was no man to gain the force of that pithy argument. Such men as Father Passaglia, Cardinal d'Andrea, or Father Hyacinthe might dream of rebellion against Papal decrees, but they never showed any capacity or inclination for joint action. But what might not be apprehended from the conflicting interests, the spirit of contradiction, the organisation of parties, the mustering up of aggregate forces sure to arise from a Council? Did not the Pope thereby confess his need of other persons' advice and comfort? Had he not questions to propound, doubts to solve, votes to solicit? And was not this want of help conclusive against infallibility? The documents which have lately been published are evidence of the readiness with which the Pope's vassals have taken advantage of their Sovereign's imaginary doubts. The Fathers of the Council very plainly demand freedom of speech. They ask to be guaranteed from treachery and surprise, and while an independent spirit is developing itself in the very bosom of the assembled Episcopacy, their flocks out of doors, the people of Bavaria, even the ultra-Romanist laity of the Munich district, present the freedom of the city to Dr. Döllinger for the manliness with which that orthodox theologian has demolished Rome's pretensions to infallibility. Will anybody say, then, that Pius IX. has reigned in vain? He has turned the eyes of the busiest and most enlightened communities to that city which alone insists on remaining stationary in defiance of the universal law of progress. He has filled the columns of journals usually dedicated to worldly interests with abstruse speculations on matters immeasurably removed from human ken. He has raked up long-forgotten controversies; unearthed deeply-buried scandals; laid bare that long tissue of fraud and crime which constitutes the history of the Roman Pontificate. Pius IX. has said, "Let there be light," and light there cannot fail to be. Let the upshot of the Council be what it may, it will require no great effort for mankind to arrive at the conclusion that the Papal infallibility, which so many took for granted, is a point on which the Church never agreed, and never can be brought to agree—a point which implied the subjection of the Church to the Pope, and the discussion of which is by no means unlikely to break up Papal supremacy and accomplish ecclesiastical emancipation.

No appointment has yet, it appears, been made to the vacant See of St. Asaph.

It is said that the Bishops of Winchester and Durham will be added to the list of her Majesty's Privy Counsellors, one result of which will be that such a dead-lock as has taken place in Mr. Voysey's case may be avoided.

It is stated that there are now fifteen bishops in this country on the retired list. Most of them are Colonial bishops, and some of the resignations date as far back as 1850.

The *Western Morning News* is authorised to state that the Rev. J. Davies, B.A., curate of Crowan, "has renounced the Church of England, as by law established, the 25th of January, 1870."

Among recent "conversions," says the *Westminster Gazette*, we hear of those of Mr. Rule, late curate of the Rev. Arthur Wagner's church, St. Paul's, Brighton, and his family; and of Lady Douglas, wife of Sir Charles Douglas, who is already a Catholic. Lady Douglas was a daughter of Sir H. W. Des Vaux.

The Bishop of Kilmore died on Friday night at Torquay. The income of the see (6,000*l.* per annum) reverts to the State. It will be the duty of the other Irish bishops to elect a temporary successor to Dr. Verschoyle, pending the legal taking effect of disestablishment and the arrangements of the Church Convention, which is about to meet, as to the manner of electing bishops in future.

THE INDELIBILITY OF ORDERS.—It is stated that a northern M.P. in meditating the introduction of a bill next session to repeal the statute prohibiting the clergy from sitting in the House of Commons. If a bill of the kind should pass, the Rev. W. G. Clark, ex-Public Orator, would, it is rumoured, offer himself for the University of Cambridge.

THE BISHOPRIC OF SIERRA LEONE.—Some difficulty seems to be experienced in finding a Bishop for the vacant see of Sierra Leone. Dr. Massingham, to whom it was offered—not by Mr. Gladstone, who has had nothing to do with it, but by the Propagation of the Gospel Society—has refused it, and so, it is said, have other clergymen. It is worth 900*l.* a year—500*l.* a year as colonial chaplain, and 400*l.* from the Colonial Bishops' Fund.

THE CASE OF THE REV. MR. BENNETT.—A petition has been presented by the promoter in the case of "Sheppard v. Bennett," to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, praying that it may be heard in March, as it is feared without a special order it will go over for several months. An appeal was granted by the Dean of Arches in respect of a change in the articles, and by a rule of the Judicial Committee an appeal cannot be heard until after four months of its being lodged.

THE NEW BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.—The Dean and Chapter of Manchester, at the conclusion of the

morning service in the Cathedral Church on Monday, proceeded to comply with the Royal mandate by electing the Rev. James Fraser, M.A., bishop of the diocese of Manchester, in place of the late Dr. James Prince Lee. Dr. Bowers, the Dean, presided. The other members of the Chapter present were the Rev. Canons Richson, Marsden, and Gibson, and the Venerable Archdeacon Durnford. A memorial from the honorary Canons to be admitted to the Chapter and vote in the election is understood to have been rejected. The new Bishop will be consecrated in York Minster on Thursday, the 24th instant, being the feast of St. Matthias. He will be enthroned in Manchester Cathedral immediately afterwards.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL TITLES ACT.—By the Ecclesiastical Titles Act of 1851, the consent of the Attorney-General must be obtained before a prosecution can be instituted under that statute. Notwithstanding the refusal of such consent, a Mr. Cobbett had brought an action against Dr. Manning for having assumed the title of Archbishop of Westminster, thereby incurring a penalty of 100*l.* Both Mr. Justice Willes and a Master of the Exchequer had ordered the preliminary proceedings in the action to be set aside, because the Attorney-General had withheld his consent to the prosecution. The matter came before the judges of the Exchequer on Saturday, when the Court decided that the proceedings had been set aside in accordance with the Act.

THE REV. MR. BURTON AND THE BISHOP OF LONDON.—It would seem that the Bishop of Winchester did object to the consecration of Dr. Temple. In a letter to the Bishop of London Mr. Burton says:—"Now, sir, it is simply incredible that you did not know that Bishop Wilberforce had thus declined, and why. You knew, therefore, that there were nine 'dissentient' compromisers against four 'consentients'; the remaining four (viz., Bishop Gilbert of Chichester; Bishop Short, of St. Asaph; Bishop Pelham, of Norwich; and Bishop Moberly, of Salisbury) being strictly 'neutral.' Even assuming, therefore, that all those four 'neutrals' had they been asked, would have declared themselves 'consentient'—even so, you were (and you knew that you were) in a minority."

DR. IRONS.—Mr. Gladstone has conferred the living of Waddingham, in Lincolnshire, on the Rev. William Josiah Irons, D.D., Prebendary of St. Paul's and Vicar of Brompton. Dr. Irons, says the *South London Journal*, "is one of the most distinguished members of the Victoria Institute, late of Conduit-street, now of Adelphi-terrace, and has written for that body some of the most noteworthy essays on modern religious scepticism produced for a couple of generations. Among Nonconformists his fame is peculiar. They know him best by his antipodal relation to his father. Mr. Irons the elder was a leading divine of the Peculiar Baptist hue, ministering during a lengthened career at the Old Brick Chapel, still to be seen in Grove-lane, Camberwell. Mr. Irons was a prophet of extreme Dissent, while his son became a 'High and dry' Church dignitary."

THE CITY CHURCHES.—Sir C. E. Trevelyan has written a long and pertinent letter to the *Times* on the condition of our City churches. The abuses of which he complains have been familiar to the public for years past, and as long ago as 1854 an earnest but vain attempt was made to remedy them. In 1860 the Union of Benefices Act was passed, but unfortunately it is "troubled with ill conditions," and has proved almost wholly useless. As matters stand at present, the City clergyman occupies, with some rare and notable exceptions, a position in which he is of no service to anybody. He has a parish without parishioners, a church without a congregation, a cure of souls where there are no souls to cure. The only day in the week that a City clergyman is required in his parish is the day on which his parish is empty. Some years ago the average attendance at these churches was thirty-three; at the present time it is probable that the congregations are reduced still further. Allowing, however, that there are thirty-three worshippers at every church, it is evident that the parochial system maintained for their benefit is far too elaborate and costly. "There are fifty-eight different parishes," writes Sir Charles Trevelyan, "in a space of one mile in length and half a mile in breadth, and within that space, on a limited area about the size of Grosvenor-square, there are in some instances four and in others five churches, each belonging to a different parish." Sir Charles adds that the endowments are for the most part sheer waste, that the parsonage-houses are let for shops or counting-houses, and the incumbents are absentees. Such an anomaly is a disgrace to the National Church and a disgrace to the City. An evil so gross ought no longer to be passively endured, and since the government of the City of London is about to be remodelled, there is some hope perhaps that the attention of the Corporation may be directed to this subject.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE HIGH WYCOMBE TOWN COUNCIL AND OFFICIAL ATTENDANCE AT CHURCH.—The mayor of this borough seems to have made a great point of the "duty" of official attendance at the parish church, but he had rather a beggarly following notwithstanding. At the last meeting of the Council, therefore, Mr. Councillor Butler moved:—"That, believing religion to be essentially a personal and individual concern, this council does not consider attendance on the house of God in a formal and corporate capacity as in any way binding on its members; nor does it regard the omission of so doing as laying a member open to the imputation of neglecting any obligation, either to the council or to his constituents." Mr. Butler seems to have taken a liberal and very conciliatory view. "What he objected to was the sectarianism of the present practice, because it was not attendance at the House of

God abstractedly, but at the Church of England, that was expected. This was his own case; he had no conscientious objection to the gown or to attend the Church of England, and could enjoy her services when they were conducted on the old Protestant plan; and if it was an understood rule that the council should accompany the Mayor for the time being to his own place of worship, his objection in point of conscience would fall to the ground, and he should not hesitate, whenever other duties permitted, to conform to the practice, if that was the will of the majority of the council." The vote went against Mr. Butler's motion, because Mr. Councillor Redington, who "rose as a Dissenter," opposed it "tooth and nail"; for "there was not an Englishman who had not a predilection for the Church, and he hoped never to see the day when it should be disconnected from the State." If it had not been for this gentleman, the vote would have been equal. The *John Bull* thinks Mr. Redington deserves "honourable mention."

THE DEFENCE OF THE CHURCH.—The *English Churchman* on this subject writes:—"Everything is going to the bad, and it is useless to try to stop it." Such is the prevalent language of a vast number of well-meaning people. No use saying a word to counteract the evil tendencies of Radical doctrines? No use writing on the side of truth and of common sense? No use distributing tracts or pamphlets, correcting false statistics, or exposing fallacious arguments? No use supporting the Church Institution, or sending for the able lecturers of that patriotic society? Why, these prophets will bring about the fulfilment of their own prophecies, and that shortly, unless they pluck up a better heart and arouse themselves to a more manly tone of thought. Let our readers take note what are the respective incomes of the two antagonistic associations—the Liberation Society and the Church Institution. The former, for the work of pulling down the Church, revels in 8,000*l.* a year; the latter, to sustain the Church, has but 1,500*l.* a year. Thus we see that the aggressive association is far more liberally supported than the defensive. Yet how many noble-hearted lovers of our Church might, without greatly feeling the loss, give a thousand pounds donation to the Church Institution, and thus enable it to extend its operations and to enlarge the sphere of its usefulness. Donations of this sort are common enough in behalf of the Liberation Society because its supporters have faith in their cause and believe in its success. Why should not Churchmen on their part have some faith in the well-worn and well-tested motto, "Magna est veritas et prevalebit"? "Prayers and supplications" for the Church and nation are the bounden duty of all who wish well to godliness and good government. But these must be supplemented by earnest, brave, and continuous effort, or our prayers will not deserve to prevail. To judge by what goes on around us, one might think that two good old maxims were obliterated from right-thinking minds: "Duty is ours, results are God's"; and, "God helps those who help themselves."

## Religious and Denominational News.

Mr. John Pate, of New College, London, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Isleworth, Middlesex.

OPEN AIR MISSION.—The quarterly meeting of the members and friends of this society, was held on Monday evening, in Queen-square Mission Hall, Westminster, under the presidency of Mr. Stevenson Blackwood, of the Treasury. The special address usual on these occasions, was delivered by the Rev. Marcus Rainsford, M.A., Clerical Secretary of the Church of England Scripture Readers' Association, who selected for his topic "The faithful saying." Among those present were the Hon. F. Hobart, Captain Cooper Gardiner, Mr. Robert Baxter, the Rev. George Barnes, the Rev. John Popham, and about 170 open-air preachers, missionaries, and students.

MISSION WORK IN ST. GILES'S.—The annual meeting in connection with Mr. Hatton's mission work in St. Giles's, was held at the King-street Hall, on Tuesday. A hundred friends assembled for tea in the early part of the evening, and by seven o'clock, the time announced for the public meeting, the entire building was crowded in every available space. Mr. George Hatton presided, and interesting addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Cumming, of Crown-court; Mr. W. H. Benton, of Kingsgate-street; Mr. G. Kirkham, secretary of the Open Air Mission; Mr. W. J. Lewis, Spitalfields; and Mr. Joseph Kuster. The operations of the mission have been considerably extended during the year, and the total receipts amount to 669*l.*

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT THE SCARBORO' ROYAL CIRCUS.—The united meetings for prayer and communion in Scarbro', during the first week of the year, have been followed up by a series of united religious services for the working classes. Ten congregations, embracing all denominations except the Episcopalian, have thus united. The Royal Circus has been kindly lent for the purpose. The second of the services was held last Sunday afternoon, when the capacious building was literally crammed in every part. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. Baggamie and the Rev. J. Banham. Hymns were distributed on entering; on retiring, a tract, entitled, "This Way to the Circus," was distributed. It is arranged that the ministers should officiate two and two, in the alphabetical order of their names. The success of these services has far exceeded the most sanguine expectations; at the close of the

service last Sunday a large prayer-meeting was held in the ring or central part of the building.

**GRAFTON-STREET.**—A meeting took place in Grafton-street Chapel, near Fitzroy-square, on Thursday, the 20th inst., to recognise and welcome the Rev. Edward Leach, who has just accepted the pastorate. Although Mr. Leach only commenced his work as pastor with this year, the congregation has already considerably increased, and on Thursday evening the chapel was well filled, and the meeting of a most animated and glad some character. The chair was occupied by Mr. Leach. Amongst the speakers were the Rev. E. W. Thomas, late pastor; the Rev. H. Simon, Tolmer's-square; Mr. Osmann, Golden-lane Mission; the Rev. W. H. Burton, Kingsgate-street; the Rev. P. Gast, Goswell-road. Before the meeting closed, a subscription which had been entered into sufficed to clear off the debt on the chapel.

**HACKNEY-ROAD.**—On Wednesday evening, January 26th, the annual social meeting of the church and congregation of Adelphi Chapel, Hackney-road, was held in the school-house, under the presidency of the pastor, the Rev. A. A. Ramsey. The statistics of the church, as presented to the meeting, were of a very interesting and encouraging character. It appeared that 400 members had been added to the church during the five years of the present pastorate; and that, notwithstanding numerous deaths and the removal of many old friends from the neighbourhood to the suburbs, the roll of membership steadily increases. Reports of the various institutions connected with the church were submitted by the deacons and other officers; and it was stated that an aggregate sum of nearly 1,200 had been raised by the congregation in the year 1869.

**NORMANTON, NEAR DERBY.**—The new Congregational chapel at Normanton is now completed, and the first of a series of opening services was held on Wednesday week. It is seated for about 200 persons, and has in communication with it, by means of sliding shutters, a schoolroom, capable of accommodating nearly 100 more. It is designed in the early English style of architecture. The front elevation has a high pitched gable with a three-light traceried window, and a timber-framed and slated bell turret. The cost has been about 500*l.* The architect is Mr. Tait, of Leicester. As the first opening service, on Wednesday, the Rev. J. B. Paton, M.A., of Nottingham, preached in the afternoon, and a collection at the close realised 23*l.* In the evening a public meeting was held, Mr. C. Brentnall, of the Grange, in the chair. Addresses were delivered by Revs. H. Ollard, J. B. Paton, W. Osobie, J. Merwood, and Mr. T. R. Hutton, and Mr. Hobley. The new and beautiful chapel was filled in every part. Among those present were many friends from Victoria-street Church, Derby, and from London-road Chapel.

**MADAGASCAR MISSION THANKSGIVING SERVICES.**—On Tuesday evening, Jan. 25, four simultaneous meetings were held in various London chapels, under the direction of the London Missionary Society, to offer thanksgivings on account of the intelligence lately received of the renunciation of idolatry by the Queen and Government of Madagascar. At the Camberwell-green Congregational Chapel, one of these meetings was addressed by the Rev. W. Ellis himself. The venerable missionary, after referring to the fortitude and constancy of faith of the noble Malagasy men and women among whom he had laboured, briefly described how, on her recent accession to the throne, the present Queen promptly allayed the anxieties of her Christian subjects by proclaiming freedom of religion, refusing to recognise the priests of the national idols, except as ordinary subjects; how she was publicly baptized, openly expressing her joy at becoming a member of Christ's Church, and how, shortly afterwards, by her orders, the national idols were burned. These acts have been followed by the remarkable results already known to our readers.

**LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.**—The twenty-first annual meeting took place on the 25th inst., at the Tabernacle, Moorfields, recently built on the site of George Whitefield's Tabernacle, and one of the last erections of the society. Mr. Henry Wright, J.P., presided; and after alluding to the great loss sustained by the society in the sudden decease of its late treasurer, Mr. Eusebius Smith, stated that the society had now built, or helped to build, no fewer than ninety chapels, some of which were amongst the largest in the metropolis. The report read by the secretary detailed grants and loans from the society during the past year in aid of chapels at Anerley, New Hampton, Junction-road, Holloway; Lant-street, Southwark; Lewisham High-road; Lewisham Tabernacle; Twickenham, Victoria-park, Walthamstow (Orford-road), and Wanstead. It thankfully acknowledged a donation of 1,000*l.* from Mr. J. R. Mills, received at the commencement of the financial year towards the then exhausted grant fund, but stated that notwithstanding this liberal aid the grant fund was again so reduced, that there was not 180*l.* in hand to meet positive engagements, amounting to 1,900*l.* Twenty of the chapels are now opened of the twenty-four, to each of which Mr. S. Morley, M.P., contributes 500*l.*, and the society 500*l.* The Rev. Clement Duke and H. Simon delivered addresses on the occasion.

**RESIGNATION OF A SCOTCH CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER.**—The Rev. James Bailly, Congregational minister at Broughty Ferry, Scotland, on Sunday sent to the secretary of the church a letter, withdrawing from the pastoral charge which he has held there during the last five years. Mr. Bailly says:—"Necessity is laid upon me to sever the connection which has existed between us for the last five years, and not only to dissolve that bond, but to quit the ministry as a profession, and seek a sphere of occu-

pation in the world of commerce, which will give scope to the energies of my youthful manhood, and not require that I should be the organ of theological opinions which I have outgrown. This decision has its main ground in my inability conscientiously to continue to preach some of the theological dogmas which are reckoned fundamental, and adherence to which is the generally understood condition of ministerial service in the Congregational churches. Our Heavenly Father has taught me to lay little or no stress on articles of faith which you deem of vital importance. I have no choice. If I am to be loyal to truth, I must part from you and go out into the world, where I hope that, as a man of business, I may serve God as faithfully as it is possible to do in a pulpit and in the discharge of pastoral duties. As yet I do not know how or where I am to receive support for myself and family; but I am confident that He whose 'Arise!' I obey will provide. Thanking you, one and all, for your kindness to me, I now bid you farewell, as I do not intend to occupy the pulpit again as your minister."

**BRADFORD.**—On Thursday afternoon the annual tea-meeting, in connection with the Hallfield Baptist Chapel, Manningham-lane, Bradford, was held in the schoolroom. There were about four hundred persons present. In the evening a service was held in the chapel in recognition of the Rev. James Mursell, late of Kettering, son of the Rev. J. B. Mursell, of Leicester. There was a very large attendance. The Rev. J. P. Chown presided, and the other ministers of the town present were the Rev. J. Bloomfield, the Rev. J. Russell, the Rev. Dr. Fraser, the Rev. G. Edmondson, the Rev. A. G. Russell, M.D., the Rev. Dr. Raby, the Rev. B. Wood. After some remarks from the chairman, Mr. John Cooke, a deacon of the Hallfield Chapel, on behalf of the congregation, gave the Rev. James Mursell a hearty welcome to Bradford and to that house of God. They could assure him that there was a sufficient amount of work to do in the town, and there were thousands who were yet in a state of degradation. They sincerely hoped that his success in the work which he had undertaken to do would be most complete. The Rev. James Mursell thanked the people of Hallfield for the kind manner in which they had received him, and for the kindness they had shown him during the few days he had been amongst them. He was most joyful to see that ministers of other denominations had come to that meeting, to give him a welcome to the town, and he hoped they would all work together in Christian love and unity. He felt great sympathy for his friend and predecessor, Mr. Makepeace, who had been compelled by an illness to lay down the work of his Great Master. After speaking of the circumstances of his call to Bradford, Mr. Mursell said his first work, and that in which his chief time would be spent, would be the work of the pulpit, because he believed that no minister could achieve success as a minister if he made the pulpit subordinate to anything else. He asked at the hands of his new congregation forbearance, patience, freedom, and co-operation, and he hoped that their joint work would receive the blessing of God. Other ministers subsequently addressed the assembly.—*Bradford Observer.*

**A WORKING MEN'S CHURCH.**—On Thursday evening, January 27th, the third annual meeting of the Borough-road Congregational Church was held, when, after tea, the pastor, the Rev. G. M. Murphy, presided, and gave the statistics of the church. The attendance had been gradually increasing; the number of members being 314, sixty-nine of whom had been added during the year. Seventy having been transferred to other churches, emigrated, or removed from the neighbourhood during 1869. 61*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* had been expended among the poor from the communion fund and donations from friends; 212 sittings were let, and the Sabbath collections represented an amount equivalent to the letting of 715 additional seats. Mr. G. Stanhope read the balance-sheet, showing the yearly expenditure to be 575*l.* 18*s.* 2*d.*, the receipts for all sources having been 505*l.* 16*s.* Hearty votes of thanks were given to S. Morley, Esq., M.P., and to the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., for services rendered. Sixty-five meetings had been held during the winter at the Lambeth Baths, of the most varied and useful kind; the expenditure here did not come within the accounts given. Reports were then received from the Sunday-school, which has 268 scholars, twelve of whom have joined the church during the year. The Sunday afternoon adult Bible-classes, which were also doing a good work; the Tract Society, the Dorcas Society, the Savings Bank, the senior and junior Bands of Hope, the Mutual Improvement Association, the Evangelical Association, the Library, the offices of Literature (who reported the sale of 4,156 books and publications), and prayer-meeting reports were successively received and adopted. The expenditure for all work done during the year had reached 800*l.*, nearly the whole of which had been raised. Devotional services commenced and concluded a very interesting and stimulative meeting.

**EAST LONDON CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the East London Congregational Association was held on Tuesday, January 25th, in the schoolrooms of Coverdale Chapel, Commercial-road; the treasurer, Thomas Scrutton, Esq., in the chair. The Rev. James Bowrey, Hon. Sec., read the report. The work of the association has been carried on in the populous districts of Old Gravel-lane; Mile-end-road; Queen-street, Ratcliff; Philpot-street, Commercial-road; Shadwell; Darling-place, Whitechapel; Mile-end New Town; North Bow; and Sydney-street, Bethnal-green. By means of house-to-house visitation, open-air services, temperance meetings, Bands of Hope, Sunday-schools, and mothers' meetings, large numbers who are not in the habit of attending public worship have been made

acquainted with the saving truths of the Gospel. At the bedside of the large number of 2,056 sick persons the workers of the association have ministered the consolatory and sustaining truths of God's Word. Not a few of these have passed away, some expressing the confident hope of pardon and eternal life through the redeeming merits of Christ. The expenditure, amounting to about 500*l.*, is, through the liberality of Mr. S. Morley, M.P., and the Treasurer, Mr. Scrutton, about balanced by the income. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Morley for his continued liberality to the funds of the association, and to the treasurer, Mr. Scrutton, and the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. James Bowrey, for their past services; the latter gentlemen were also unanimously requested to continue their respective offices for the current year. The Revs. J. S. Watts, John Thomas, B.A., Thomas Stephenson, John Kennedy, M.A., Jas. Chew, E. Schnadhorst, E. Price, and J. Hughes, Esq., took part in the proceedings of the evening. It would be well if some parts of the report and of the addresses delivered could be widely circulated among that class of the suburban population who once lived, and many of whom still carry on business, in the localities in which the association labours. It is deeply to be regretted that this and similar institutions do not receive a more general and generous support. With the constantly diminishing resources of the local churches, how to meet the spiritual necessities of the masses crowding the East of London is a question that ought to excite the interest and secure the aid of individuals and churches located in suburban districts.

**PADDINGTON CHAPEL.**—This well-known edifice has recently been so completely remodelled both internally and externally as to make it now one of the most handsome, as it always was one of the most spacious of our London chapels. The annual meeting of the church and congregation was held on the evening of Wednesday, 26th January. After tea in the schoolroom, the meeting assembled in the chapel, the lower part of which was entirely filled. The Rev. G. D. Macgregor, the pastor, presided. The reading of reports was rendered unnecessary by their having been previously circulated in the form of a manual among the congregation. From the manual it was seen that the many religious and benevolent institutions carried on, were in a very satisfactory and prosperous condition. Sixty-eight members have been received into fellowship during the year; and the "summary of accounts," exclusive of the seat rents, showed that, including the Chapel Improvement Fund, there had been raised over 2,294*l.* The meeting was addressed by the Rev. James Fleming, of Kentish-town; the Rev. A. Mearns, of Chelsea; and the Rev. W. H. Freemantle, M.A., rector of St. Mary's, Bryanston-square, chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury. The latter gentleman, whose parish is that in which the chapel is situated, remarked that he had that very morning, by appointment of the Archbishop, been receiving and conducting through Lambeth Palace the Greek Archbishop, who is at present visiting this country. He felt it was very pleasant to exchange courtesies and cultivate union between Christians of different Churches, however great their local separation; but the thing chiefly to be sought was union of feeling and mutual helpfulness among Christians, whose fields of labour touched each other in their work for the good of souls, and the glory of Christ. He thought the time had come for closer intercourse among all denomination at home, who, from love to Christ, were striving in various ways to advance His cause. During the course of the evening, the pastor presented T. A. Wilcox, Esq., with an address and a purse of fifty sovereigns, as an expression of esteem for his person, and gratitude for the efficient and courteous manner in which he had for many years discharged the duties of secretary to the congregation. To aid in removing the debt in the improvement fund, it is intended to hold a bazaar in the month of June, towards which the contributions of all the friends of the chapel is besought, and which we trust will be very successful.

**LEWISHAM HIGH-ROAD (NEW CROSS) CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.**—The annual meeting in connection with this church and congregation took place on Thursday evening, January 27. Tea and coffee were served up, with the usual accompaniments, in the "Evening Chapel," which was tastefully decorated with wreaths of evergreens and roses, numerous illuminated texts, and mottoes being also conspicuously displayed. The arrangement was adopted of having the tea-tables and seats for ladies placed round the sides of the room, while the centre was kept clear, enabling the greater proportion to mingle freely and sociably while enjoying their tea. At 6.30 p.m., or an hour later, the public meeting was opened in the church, the Rev. George Martin, pastor, in the chair, surrounded by his deacons and office-bearers. The proceedings consisted of the reading of the several reports of societies of the church and congregation for the past year, which all more or less indicated a state of sound and healthful activity. The report of the church itself showed that during the nine years of its existence a total of 613 had been admitted as members, while there was a clear gain of 34 during the past year, after allowing for transfers, deaths, &c. The reports of the different Sunday-schools and of the Young Men's Improvement Society were of a satisfactory nature, showing fair and hopeful results. Several reports, notably those of the Infants' Clothing, the Blanket, and the Christian Instruction Societies, dwelt on the prevalent destitution among the poor, so much increased during the past year by the closing of the Government dockyard and various private establishments on the Thames, employing large numbers of workpeople. But the chief business of the

evening was centered in the report of the Building Committee, which showed that the addition of handsome new galleries to the church, and various other improvements and alterations, by which the building could now comfortably seat 1,200 persons, while the acoustic properties were improved, had entailed an expense of over 1,600*l.*, of which 1,000*l.* had been paid. In response to the appeal of the pastor, and in view of several handsome contributions, conditional on the debt being at once extinguished, before the meeting closed it was announced that not more than 90*l.* remained unsubscribed for, and this sum was expected to be made up before Sunday evening. On the Sunday evening Mr. Martin was enabled to make the gratifying announcement that the required amount had been promised during the day, and that consequently the payment of the debt was fully provided for.

### Correspondence.

#### THE WELSH POLITICAL EVICTIONS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly permit me to call the attention of your readers to the advertisement respecting the Welsh political evictions, which appears in today's *Nonconformist*? I am sure we shall not appeal in vain to our English friends for help towards the fund now being raised to administer some compensation to my countrymen who are suffering cruelly for their political courage and consistency at the last general election.

The moral effect of a pretty general expression of sympathy from English Nonconformists and Liberals, would be very great in Wales, both upon the oppressors and the oppressed.

The treasurer of the general committee is E. M. Richards, Esq., M.P., Swansea. A branch committee has been also formed in London, of which Morgan Lloyd, Esq., 4, King's Bench Walk, Temple, E.C., is the treasurer. Contributions may be remitted to either of those two gentlemen.

May I also express a hope that the Nonconformists of London will attend in good numbers the public meeting on this subject, which is to be held at the Hanover-square Rooms on Monday, February 7, when Mr. Morley, M.P., will take the chair.

Yours truly,  
HENRY RICHARD.

164, Clapham-road, S.W., Jan. 31, 1870.

#### THE SCOTCH CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In the first number of the *Nonconformist* for this year, the suggestion was made that some who have leisure might charge themselves with thinking out the phases of the problem of Church and State as these have come under their observation. The following thoughts are placed at your service on the question from a Scotch point of view:—

The disestablishment of the Church in Ireland has produced a very decided impression throughout Scotland. Thoughtful clergymen and laymen belonging to the Scotch Establishment believe now that disestablishment in Scotland is only a question of time. The cases of Auchterarder, Lethendy, and Strathbogie, led the way to the Disruption. The generation which saw the Disruption is rapidly diminishing. The hostile feeling created by that event both in those who remained in and those who left the Establishment, is still more rapidly vanishing away. A few Free Churchmen who committed themselves to the Establishment principle, feel themselves trammelled by the position they have assumed, but some of the great Disruption leaders, and a large number of the younger clergy, have learned by experience the value of freedom, and they are slowly but certainly moving forward in the direction of Liberation principles. The Free Church is now a great fact, and its success is a powerful argument in favour of the larger freedom which we seek.

The recent cases of disputed settlement, such as Dunboy, Leith, and the present one at Alloa, with a host of others, have had an educational effect upon the leaders of the Scotch Establishment. Every case in which the exercise of patronage is resented, opens a new sphere for Free Church enterprise. The leaders of the Establishment have seen with what elasticity and activity the Free Church is ready to profit by every case of unwise or unacceptable patronage. Throughout the country the congregations of the Established Church, when a vacancy occurs, not being accustomed to Church business, make frequent blunders. The long and weary cross-examinations conducted by lawyers in the Church Courts, under Lord Aberdeen's Act, have brought out scandals which are felt to be a reproach which must be wiped away. In consequence the question of patronage has come up.

The abolition of patronage, to which the General Assembly is now committed, is one of the most striking signs of the times. This proposal is a virtual declaration that the Church was wrong in persistently resisting the claim of the Free Church leaders in their demands for the abolition of patronage. The effect of this proposal upon the Free Church has been to confirm her members in the excellence of their position outside of the Establishment. They see some of those who forced on the Disruption by their high-handed defence of patron-

age now prominent in their desire to see it abolished, and they accept this as proof of the bondage within the Establishment, and a complete demonstration of the freedom enjoyed beyond her pale. Dissent and Disruption are thus amply vindicated, and by the very party which has for years scorned and condemned them. They have paid a great price for freedom themselves, and they are not disposed to allow the Establishment their freedom unless they are prepared to support the objects of their free choice on their own resources, and not at the national expense. The proposal to abolish patronage is too late to bring back the Free Church, and can only be obtained by disestablishment. The Free Church obtained their freedom by voluntary disestablishment, and the Scottish Establishment made the price, and they must pay it or remain in bonds.

The Free Church is making progress in that higher style of freedom advocated by the Liberation Society. Many of her members yet demur to the thing called Voluntarism, but they are year by year drawing nearer to the principle of complete freedom from State patronage and control. They have but to become aware that the ugly man-made name "Voluntarism" embodies a truth of God, and they will be on our side. They have yet to learn that it simply means man's willing obedience and answer to the will of God, when they have learned that as to their after course we shall have no anxiety. The intelligent members of the Scottish Establishment are aware that their Church no longer answers the purpose of her original constitution, that she should provide for the spiritual wants of the nation, but she only now provides for about a third part of the people. The others provide the means for their own spiritual culture. The Established Church therefore is national only in name. Her best clergy no longer hold aloof from the other Churches with lofty contempt, but are found willing to meet on equal terms on the same platform with other clergy. They would now woo and win those they formerly despised. They are evidently preparing for disestablishment. The design of the abolition of patronage is to postpone disestablishment, but there are some who think it will only accelerate that event. Meanwhile the Establishment is increasing in numbers through the natural increase of the population, and she may use the argument of this natural increase as if it were a real gain from the other Churches.

The last election proved how far apart her clergy are from her laity in political matters. The clergy have felt this deeply, it has impaired their influence. They would regain it by their proposal to abolish patronage, but the people have the sense to see that this step is one of policy far more than one of principle, and therefore they do not expect it will be gained. Meanwhile the problem is being considered, and the friends of religious equality will watch it with interest.

Yours faithfully,  
J. M.

#### SUSTENTATION FUND FOR JAMAICA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Those who are rejoicing over the disestablishment of the Church of England in the West Indies could not, I think, better signalise their victory than by the formation of a fund which should adequately supplement the salaries of the ministers, and schoolmasters and mistresses. I know nothing personally of Jamaica, but have resided for some years in one of the smaller Antilles, and have seen something of several of our other colonies, and I rather strongly feel that the people of the "Isles of the Western Sea" are not able properly to support their instructors themselves, and that, at present, too much of the best energies of many of the missionaries are absorbed by their pecuniary cares.

I believe that, in some West Indian parishes, the State-supported clergyman is almost the only representative of civilisation and the refinements of life, and those of your readers who may know something of what negro villages become off the track of the white man, may wish with me that some kind of "Sustentation Fund" could be established alike by Churchmen and Dissenters in England, the income from which should be devoted to the regular support of their clergy and teachers in the West Indies.

I wish that the sum the Home Government have been accustomed to devote yearly for the support of the West Indian clergy could be allowed to accumulate for a few years for the support of education in these colonies, where I believe for the next ten years the schools should be free, and attendance compulsory.

I am, truly,

J. MARSHALL STURGE.

Gloucester, January 31, 1870.

#### THE EDUCATIONAL QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As the important question of national education gets more and more discussed, and as public opinion begins to form itself on this serious point, the advocates of religious instruction and their opponents become more and more distinct. Is not this the grand problem to be solved—Does the State owe religious instruction to its children or not? Here I think lies the difficulty. On all sides it has been agreed that it is necessary for the State to provide education, and that that education must be compulsory. In order to attain this end, is it neces-

sary to 'exclude the Bible from rate-aided' schools by an Act of the Imperial Parliament? I do not plead for denominational education, but I do think it is hard for a Christian state to exclude the Bible from its schools. Does not a Christian State, as England professes to be, owe religious quite as much as secular education to its children, and how ministers of religion can advocate the exclusion from the schools of the Book they profess to teach and take their standard by I cannot quite see. With men of no religious principles the case is quite different, they consider religious teaching as quite unnecessary. I believe the scheme proposed by the Educational Union to be a good one. In your able article on the "*British Quarterly on Education*," you write "that 'religious truth and error would be taught in such 'schools.' But would not the good arising from the teaching of the Word of God materially overbalance the evil resulting from erroneous teaching? Granting the insuperable difficulties for religious instruction in rate-aided schools, could not a conscience clause, as advocated by the Union, be put in to meet the exigencies of the case? Up to now the Bible has been the strength of the English nation; to exclude it altogether from the schools would, I think, be a fatal mistake."

I remain, yours very truly,

VERITAS VALEBIT.

January 25, 1870.

#### PAPAL INFALLIBILITY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The well-known lines of the satirist, Doubtless the pleasure is as great Of being cheated as to cheat.

are founded upon the saying of a very high authority in the Church of Rome. Cardinal Carafa was the happy originator of the remark; some say with a profane addition, which would not have lowered him much in the estimation of his infallible master, Leo X. The letter of "Enquirer" shows, by another example, how faithfully the priests abide by their maxims, and continue to delude the people as of old. He tells us of a pamphlet called "The Council," in which is given a pretended definition of Papal Infallibility. I call this a fraud, because—1. It has not yet been settled whether the Pope shall be infallible in any sense; and 2, because no definition of infallibility has been given by authority. The pamphlet merely states the private opinion or wish of the writer. For my part, I hope the fallible members of the Roman Council will confer an infallible claim to infallibility upon Pío Nono, or rather, that they will allow him to declare himself infallible. This will be a great boon to the world, and will do no harm to religion, whatever it may do for Popery. It will transform a whole regiment of saints into heretics. It will endorse some of the most frightful edicts ever published. It will give the lie to a list of half-a-dozen so called general councils. It will condemn men, who, like Boesnet, wrote manfully against it. It will make wise men laugh, and say with the great Greek ecclesiastic, "How strange that the Holy Ghost should make the Popes so infallible in their words, and leave them so fallible in their deeds!" It will make it hard to know when the Popes are infallible and when they are not, unless they can make men infallibly certain that infallibility has spoken. Finally, it will raise a number of curious questions: for instance, how the Irish prelates could declare on oath a few years back, "that it is not an article of the Christian faith, neither are they thereby required to believe, that the Pope is infallible." If it was a doctrine then, they were either perjured, or ignorant of the doctrines of their creed. If it was not a doctrine then, why, a new doctrine is added.

With reference to the list of Popes of the first two centuries, they are not styled Popes by the writers of the period, the existence of some of them is doubtful, and the most ancient authors do not agree as to their order of succession. There is not a shadow of evidence that they claimed infallibility, or had it ascribed to them. That Peter was a Pope or bishop of Rome, or ever went to Rome, is not mentioned in the New Testament, and must be put down as a mere legend.

The first "requisite condition for an Ecumenical Council" does not apply to the Council of Nice in A.D. 325, because it was convoked by the Emperor, and not by the Bishop of Rome. The second requisite condition does not apply to that Council, because it was not presided over either by Silvester or by the two Presbyters that represented him. The third condition does not apply, because restraint was placed upon the free speech of some who attended. The fourth condition also fails, because there is not the shadow of evidence that the Roman Bishop was so much as asked to confirm the canons, which put him on much the same level as the other metropolitan bishops.

There is something ludicrous in the notion of infallibility advanced by the Council. To be infallible the Pope must not only speak as Pope, and in questions of faith and morals, he must also address the whole Church, and declare his decisions binding on all the faithful. Let me state a fact. St. Boniface requested of Pope Zachary a decision respecting the lawfulness of eating certain kinds of food. The Pope issued his decision—now before me—in which he declares that Christians must altogether avoid eating certain birds, and that they must much more avoid the flesh of certain animals. Among the animals hares and horses are included. If this decision is infallible, what sinners

many Romanists must be! If it is not infallible, then the Pope is a mere seesaw, who is infallible or not in his official actions, just as may be convenient. This Zachary was the Pope who "declared" it a heresy to believe in the Antipodes, and did not think it beneath his official dignity to "declare" what must be done with horses suffering from a particular form of disease, which he did not understand.

To illustrate the false assertion about the Immaculate Conception would require more space than I dare ask.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

B. H. COWPER.

#### THE EDUCATION QUESTION AND INDEPENDENTS AND VOLUNTARIES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged if you will find space for a few lines from one who continues to stand upon the old principles and to maintain the old lines on this important question. I am quite aware that in venturing to write in this character I shall be regarded as a "*rara avis in terris*," and that probably it will be very much like attempting to argue with the whirlwind, or to reason with the storm, yet I am of opinion that there may be some profit in looking at the matter for a moment from a standpoint, now generally abandoned, though never proved to be false or erroneous.

The old-fashioned notion which I still hold to be true, incontroverted and incontrovertible, is that "it is the duty of parents to educate their children"; "that Government ought not to be asked to do that for us which we can do for ourselves"; that (quoting from one of the Crosby Hall lectures, delivered more than twenty years ago) admitting a large amount of destitution, the question is, "On what principle is that destitution to be met? On the principle of moral and religious obligation, or on the principle of legal authority?" If the force of *you ought* has not sufficed, is it just to call in *you shall*? Is it desirable that in the future, so far as the care of the mind and morals of our neighbours is concerned, it once turned upon sense of responsibility, it shall turn for the future upon legal compulsion?

The author of that lecture stated, even at that period, that he augured no good to society from the very general disposition of the age to merge individual responsibility into that of civil government, and to perform our duty to our neighbour by a sort of public proxy, thus attempting to evade the penalties of our own indolence and selfishness by purchasing a joint-stock substitute for fulfilling our solemn trust. This general disposition to fly to Government has, I believe, largely increased since that time, and appears to me not only to be a great evil but a singular phenomena and anomaly in presence of other changes. I believe it to be most injurious, and that if it is not checked it will undermine the self-reliance and vigour of the national character.

Taking a homely view of the principle that education is the duty of parents, I was, at a public meeting held a few days ago, struck with the incongruity of hearing an Independent minister argue vigorously in favour of Governmental and compulsory education, and at the same time appeal to the people present to see to the education of their children. I felt, with the speaker, that it is a great honour to a man to bring up, to feed, clothe, and educate a family respectably and well. But I could not help feeling further that it would be a pity to take away that credit by Act of Parliament, and I was yet further inclined to ask what honour or credit will be left to such a man if he be *compelled* to send his children to school, and *compelled* to pay for the education of his own and other people's children. This appears to me to illustrate the principle most to be feared in the various changes now so generally advocated.

In attempting to call attention to the "Voluntary" view of the question as it exists at present, I will not repeat the well-known though much-forgotten arguments against Governmental interference. I will say nothing of the well-known costly and clumsy character of Government proceedings as a rule; of the fact that what is offered *gratuitously* is *despised*, that what is *forced* upon people is *hated*; nor of the error of supposing that education will eradicate crime. I will not refer to the Endowed Schools Bill of last session, further than to express my regret that so favourable an opportunity of carrying out the intentions of our ancestors of supplying educational destitution on the Voluntary principle was not more fully used, and that the advantages of those schools were not secured for the future to those who are *not*, instead of to those who *are*, able to obtain education for themselves.

I will say nothing of the interference with private schools by Government competition or the violation of the principles of free trade involved therein.

I will not stop to denounce the grossly exaggerated and disgracefully reckless statements, as to the extent of educational destitution, nor will I occupy your valuable space by pointing out the illogical and absurd character of some of the arguments frequently advanced in favour of Governmental action. For instance, when it is proposed that because *some* are neglected and destitute, *all* shall be provided for *gratuitously*—which appears to me to be as unreasonable, when applied to education, as it would be to argue and to enact, that because a portion of the people are destitute of food,

the whole population shall be fed at the expense of Government.

I will not stop either to protest against the calumny that "the Voluntary Principle has failed"—though occasionally it is now actually heard from the lips of Nonconformist ministers, and from some others who probably have never lifted a finger or subscribed a shilling for educational purposes, and who would be far more accurate if they were to say that the glorious principle has not been acted out with sincerity and earnestness by its professors, and that not a tithe of its strength and virtue have ever had the opportunity of being called into exercise.

But holding as firmly as ever the opinion that our former views and principles as Voluntaries are as sound and incontrovertible with reference to education as to religion, and being convinced also of the extreme injustice and undesirability of Government enacting, either that religion shall or shall not be taught at any particular time, or in any particular place—it is impossible to shut one's eyes to the impending action of Government in the matter. With this prospect, and looking at the question as a Voluntary, a choice of evils is presented, and the object of every earnest friend of education, and every sincere well-wisher of the country, will be to limit as far as possible the evils involved, and to secure that future action shall proceed, if not on sound principles, on principles as nearly sound as possible.

Admitting, then, that a large amount of ignorance and neglect continues to exist, and admitting further, for the sake of argument, that Government may deal with those who are educationally paupers as it does with those who are paupers in the ordinary sense of the term; is it possible to limit the action of Government to the necessities of the case? Is it possible to apply the action of Government to the pauper (educationally speaking), section of the population leaving the robust and self-reliant to the healthy exercise of providing for themselves?

This appears to me a most important question, but I have as yet seen no attempt to answer it, or to solve the problem. As a Voluntary, I would of course answer, "The benevolence and charity of the people are intended and are sufficient if fairly developed, to meet all that is required." But not having been accustomed to look to Government aid, I must confess myself unable to point out how the Government may perform the necessary without including the unnecessary, and consequently injurious. I shall be thankful if those who have studied this question from a different stand-point, will throw light upon it. It appears to me that everything done by Government beyond meeting the needs of the destitute and neglected, is not only wasted, but is positively injurious, and that the nation is taxed in that case to promote its own injury. But if it be concluded or argued that it is impossible to supply the needy without at the same time supplying gratuitously those who can supply themselves—impossible to supply part without supplying the whole—then clearly a national system must be called into existence, and if we are to have a national system it cannot possibly be either *sectarian* or *denominational*. The Imperial Government knows no sects, at least it must not in the future know either sect or denomination.

Now, if we are to have a Governmental or national system of education, I cannot but, as a Nonconformist, express my astonishment with the proceedings of those Nonconformists who support the present system or the extension of it proposed and advocated by one of the societies recently organised. And, with the greatest respect for those who support the grant system, and who have been most active and influential among us as a denomination, I cannot but feel that we have been most unfortunately led, and that at the present moment we occupy a position which is neither safe, consistent, nor dignified. Indeed, for the first time in my experience I feel not only our friends the Baptists (who are often so), but the Wesleyans are in advance of us. We have been led to fall in, or have drifted at least partially, to the present system, and some among us advocate the proposed extension of it. We have done this after firmly and vigorously protesting against it for a quarter of a century, and we have done it just at the moment when change and improvement was not only possible but certain. We have thus given our influence to support and perpetuate the evil principles against which we have so long protested, and to hinder the adoption and establishment of anything more desirable and more national. What is the present system or its proposed extension? It is simply the denominational system, the concurrent and indiscriminate endowment of all sects and denominations. The placards of the "National Educational Union" are headed "to promote national religious education."

It appears to me almost incredible that men who have professed all their lives to contend against the endowment and establishment of one Church should now fall in with a system which advocates Government grants for the spread of every form of religious belief. This I contend to be totally inadmissible under any circumstances; but this is what we have at present, notwithstanding the laboured attempts of some of our friends to persuade themselves and us to the contrary.

In this borough, for instance, within a radius of half a mile, we have an Established Church school, a Wesleyan school, a Presbyterian school, a New Jerusalem Church school, and, I regret to add, an Inde-

pendent school, every one of which derives its main support from Government grants, and every one of which insists upon teaching its peculiar religious views—some of the number boasting in their annual printed reports that this is the chief object for which they were founded and conducted!

I have an invincible repugnance, which I trust no condition of necessity and no Government grant can overcome, to being compelled in any form to pay for the spread of the religious opinions of others, and I have, if possible, a still stronger objection against others being compelled to support my own.

The Roman Catholic prelates in Ireland demand the substitution in that country of the denominational system as it prevails here for the national system existing in Ireland. They have not any objection to the alliance of Church and State, but approve the principle. It will, of course, be impossible to withhold what they ask if we continue it here. Their demand appears to me a most opportune and providential one, and one which illustrates in the clearest possible manner the utterly unsound and indefensible character of the present system. What, then, is to be done? There, it has been said, is no method of dealing with it without remodelling the whole question, and restricting public money grants to the support of that half of knowledge about which all sections of the State are agreed, or withdrawing altogether from the business and leaving each to do their own work. For myself, I regret that the "Education League" has failed to adhere strictly and firmly to this ground. I believe nothing less offers a firm platform, and nothing less will rally that amount of genuine enthusiasm and national support required to induce Parliament to deal with the question in such a manner as to effect a permanent settlement. I would say beware of compromises. Whatever else may be accomplished, I believe it to be the paramount duty of every man, and especially of every Nonconformist at this moment, when we are within sight of the termination of the struggle of ages for religious liberty and equality, and the spirituality of Christ's kingdom, to see to it that the opposite principle, which has been so calamitous in the past, and must of necessity be so if acted upon in the future, shall not receive in any form or degree the sanction of Parliament or adoption in future legislation.

I have to ask you to pardon me for presuming to write at so great length, and beg to subscribe myself,

Sir, respectfully yours,

WM. WARBURTON.

Salford, January 28, 1870.

#### VOLUNTARYISTS AND THE WEEKLY OFFERTORY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—In your number of January 26, your correspondent "A. F." says, "It seems to me that at present Voluntaryists have not sufficient faith in their own principles, to render it probable that they would abandon the system of pew-rents. I hope and believe the time will come, and that before long, when they will see that no compulsion, either moral or of any other kind, is necessary to induce Christian men to their duty in the way of giving." "A. F." then suggests that if boxes be placed in conspicuous positions near chapel doors; and if ministers earnestly invite to the regular use of them; and a statement be made every Sabbath of the last Sabbath's receipts, doubtless congregations would be educated in giving, with better results than pew-rents produce.

Permit me, Sir, to sustain this opinion by three facts which have come to my knowledge this week. A minister said, "Your address at — secured me for three years by weekly offerings, 40*l.* a year more than pew-rents raised." A gentleman writes, "Weekly offerings produce for our incidental expenses, double what we got by quarterly collections. The minister's income is obtained in separate boxes by weekly, monthly, or quarterly offerings. You will say weekly is best. We may be gradually trained to this." The annual report of the West End Congregational Church, Southport, just to hand, records 377*l.* raised by weekly contributions in 1869; the eighth year of this practice and of this Church's history. Pew-rent was never charged here.

A gentleman lately said, "Your address in this chapel led us to institute weekly offerings instead of pew-rents, with an improvement of 50*l.* a year." This increase will easily be understood by a letter lately received from a young tradesman in that place. "In the year 1858, you visited — and made a speech at a meeting then being held by the Congregational Union, upon Systematic Giving. I was only a youth of thirteen years, but heard the speakers enter into the subject *pro* and *con*, and determined to adopt the method. I have since done so, and find it acts in the following manner—(1.) I lay aside a certain amount from a sense of duty. (2.) I give that which is laid aside with pleasure, because it belongs to God. (3.) I am not liable to be affected by the ability of an advocate, so much as the cause he advocates, and I can allot my moneys to the best purpose." None of these churches suffered as to right of pews by giving up pew-rents.

Dear Sir, yours truly,

JOHN ROSS.

Hackney, January 28, 1870.

## UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following are lists of the candidates who have passed the recent law examinations:—

## FIRST LL.B. EXAMINATION.—EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

## JURISPRUDENCE AND ROMAN LAW.

First Class.—Seward William Brice, M.A., (Exhibition) University College; Charles James Tarring, private reading.

Second Class.—Archibald Brown, M.A. Edinburgh, Christ Church, Oxford.

Third Class.—Daniel Mackey, private study.

## SECOND LL.B. EXAMINATION.—EXAMINATION FOR HONOURS.

## COMMON LAW AND EQUITY.

Second Class.—Rev. George Macloskie, M.A., Queen's University, Queen's College, Belfast.

Third Class.—Edward Walker Brandard Malkin Hanco, private study.

## LL.D. EXAMINATION.

William Easterby, B.A., private study; Thomas Lambert Mears, B.A., University College.

## CLASSIFIED MATRICULATION LIST, JANUARY, 1870.

The following is a classified list of candidates who passed the late examination for matriculation:—

Honours Division.—John Mason Lightwood, Clevedon College, Northampton; Edgar Caesar Fox, University College School and Rev. Ph. Magnust; Henry Keetley Beaumont, Wesley College, Sheffield; Edward Davies, University College; John Boyne, Wesleyan College, Taunton; Robert Forsyth Scott, private study; Alexander Freeman King, Vale Academy, Ramsgate; Ernest Oheyme, St. Marylebone and All Souls Grammar School; Martin Luther Lewis, Downing College, Cambridge; David Rutherford, private study; Robert Hall, Waterloo School, Liverpool, and Henry Major, private study, equal; William Martin Pendlebury, private study; Charles Dalgarno, Aberdeen University; Richard Green Smailes, Wesley College, Sheffield; James Hardy Honeyburne, St. Catherine's College, Cambridge; George Atkins, St. Mark's College, Chelsea, and Frederick Dugard, Battersea Training College, equal; John Paget Davies, Rev. A. Wilkes, B.A., Stowmarket; Samuel Boulter Flaxman, King's College; Joseph William Comyns Carr, Bruce Castle School; Frederick Emile Dembski, Berlin University; Anundoram Borooah, Presidency College, Calcutta.

First Division.—Mortimer Allen, Wesleyan College, Richmond; Albert De Winter Baker, private tuition; Thomas Duff Barnett, private study; Frederick Henry William Birch, private study; William Henry Blake, Queenwood College; James Blamey, Wesleyan College, Taunton; Johannes Blum, private study; William Edward Bovill, private study; William Brown, private study; James Fraser Buckley, private study; Cornelius Bulbeck, private study; Alfred Henry Burton, private tuition; John Battle, Eldon House; Alfred Caldecott, private study; James William Candelet, Manchester Grammar School; William Henry Carter, Blackheath Proprietary School; Robert Chadwick, private study; Alexander Cohen, Jews' Free School; James Milne Dewar, private study; William Dodds, private study; John Thomas Doyle, Manchester Grammar School; Edward Danvers Draper, private tuition; Owen John Dullea, private study; William Francis Faulding, Wesleyan College, Didsbury; Frederick Charles Faulkner, Abington House School, Northampton; Henry Weybridge Ferris, private study; William Arthur Foxwell, Wesleyan College, Taunton; John Fraser, private study; Samuel Gardner, private study; Alfred Freeman Gell, H. F. Hanxwell, M.A.; Charles Walter Godfrey, Independent College, Taunton; William Gristock, St. Marylebone and All Souls Grammar School; Henry Wills Gunn, Independent College, Taunton; Alfred Hainworth, private study; Stephen Hale, private study; George Gibson Harris, private tuition; Thomas Ernest Hayward, Tewkesbury Grammar School; John Tucker Hillard, Wesleyan College, Taunton; Charles Thomas Hobbs, City of London School; Charles William Hoakin, private study; William George Iabister, private study; Edwin Peed James, University College School; William Jenkins, Normal College, Swansea; Henry Kendall, private study; Adolphus Henry Kent, private study; John Gilbert Kotes, South African College; Abraham Levy, Jews' Free School; James Thomas Charles London, Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, Bristol; Christopher Henry Lund, Bonn University and private study; Adam Gray Maitland, Western College, Plymouth; Alfred William Marshall, private study; Aurelius Victor Maybury, City of London School; Henry Pereira Mendes, Northwick College; Arthur New, Rev. D. Davis, Lancaster; John William Brooke Parkin, private tuition; Edward Hare Pickersgill, St. Peter's School, York; Frederick Ernest Pocock, Alfred House School; Herbert Francis Ramsay, private tuition; Apsley Chase Ranger, King's College; David Cooper Roadhouse, Wesley College, Sheffield; Joseph Schofield, private study; William Edward Snell, Congregational School, Lewisham; Richard Stead, private study; James Samuel Stollard, private tuition; Vincent Stone, Marlborough College and private study; Richard Henry Oakley Stubbs, private study; William Summers, Lindow Grove, Wilmalow; Edmund Stow Thomson, private study; George Todd, St. John's Wood Collegiate School; Alfred Moxon Turner, private study; William Richard Eaton Turner, Clapham Grammar School; James Alfred Vane, Wesleyan College, Taunton and Kingswood School; William Chapman Waller, private tuition; John Watson, Edinburgh University.

Second Division.—George James Athill, King's College; Philip Birch, Lichfield Grammar School; William James Chalk, Taunton College School; John Wilkins Clarkson, Christ's College, Finchley; Henry Wade Deacon, King's College School; William Ford Edgelow, Thorn Park School; William Richardson Edmond, Normal College, Swansea; Evan William Evans, Uni-

versity School, Bath; Urquhart Atwell Forbes, Rev. J. S. Dawes; John Topham Gadsby, University College; Leslie Garrett, University College School and private study; Henry Macfarland Gee, Collegiate School, Clare Priory, Suffolk; Henry Wilson Hake, private study; Henry Joseph Hancock, Falkland House, Finchley; Edward Daw Mashiter Hooper, F. W. Bonter, Esq., R.N.; John Hopkins, Sandcroft College; Leander Starr Jameson, Godolphin School; George Hawson Keyworth, Lincoln Grammar School; Thomas Letch, private study; Richard Longworth, Royal Grammar School, Whalley; Edward Love, Regent's Park College; Henry Owen Lucas, Bedford Grammar School; George Wykes Lumley, F. S. Durham, M.A.; Henry Hays McCullagh, Wesley College, Sheffield; Louis William Montagnon, private study; George Edward Moore, Edward VI.'s School, Norwich; Walter Cameron Morris, private study; Herbert Brownlow Mort, City of London School; Rosser Thornhill Morton, private study; Thomas Aloysius O'Donohoe, Hammersmith Training College; Joseph Hollinshead Oldroyd, private study; Robert Croust Richards, Wesleyan College, Taunton; Frank Roberts, private tuition; John Edwin Hilary Skinner, private study; Francis Alexander Slack, Taunton College School; George Walter Spicer, Queen's College, Birmingham; Robert Stewart, private study; John Henry Stranger, Hereford Proprietary School; Charles Thomas Sutcliffe, private tuition; Charles Parbutt Taylor, private study; Joshua Alfred Vardy, City of London School; Henry Bird Vincent, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Edward Moritz Wallerstein, private tuition; Henry Whitwell, University and College private tuition; Arthur Yates, private tuition.

## THE EDUCATION MOVEMENT.

The Welsh Educational Conference et again on Wednesday morning, and after disposing of the remaining resolutions, entered upon the consideration of the University College for Wales. The Rev. D. Charles, the secretary, read a long report, which contained an historical account of the movement. He said the object of the college was to give to Welsh youth a high-class education at a moderate cost. The movement began in 1854 in London. After lying in abeyance for ten years, it received an impulse from the donation of 1,000l. by Mr. Williams, the member for Lambeth. Dr. Nicholas, the secretary, obtained promises of 12,000l., of which 5,700l. had been received in money. Since Dr. Nicholas's resignation, Mr. Charles had laboured earnestly though not with the success he had expected. He had met with very great apathy, especially among the aristocracy. The total amount of promises was 15,781l. 1s. 5d., of which 8,866l. 1s. 5d. had been received in money. Hence they were far below their mark of 30,000l. About 5,000l. still remained owing to the bank, on which interest was paid; all promises, therefore, should be paid up. The country must be aroused to the importance of the college, especially Nonconformists, as Churchmen held aloof. Large sums had been given in Liverpool and North Wales, and great hopes were entertained from the intelligent quarrymen of Festiniog. Mr. Charles looked forward to the reception of students as soon as the rooms were furnished, which would entail an expense of 4,000l. About 8,000l. would enable them to open the college, and it was a small sum for all Wales to collect. The matter could not linger any longer, and if something were not soon done a sectarian university would be established, and such an institution Welshmen could not tolerate. It was ultimately resolved to ask thirty gentlemen to lend 250l. for five years, without interest, so that the college may commence operations at once. A committee was appointed to wait on the Government, asking for a grant. The Rector of Neath spoke in favour of an unsectarian college, and said that the professors of St. David's, Lampeter, were not antagonistic to the University College.

The great point of discussion at this conference in respect to the National Education question was whether the conference should give in their adhesion to the Birmingham League, which it was agreed they should do, provided the League would modify its scheme on certain points which were deemed very objectionable. These were:—1. The allowing the use of the school buildings for religious purposes out of school hours. 2. The giving power to school boards to compel children to attend denominational schools. 3. The making no provision for the State to withdraw from denominational schools. 4. The giving power to school boards to hand over schools now receiving Government aid to the control of their present managers, upon certain conditions. This applies to nearly 25,000 schools, nearly 20,000 of which are Church of England schools. 5. The arranging that denominational schools adopting a Conscience Clause shall receive double the present grant from Government, thus making it morally certain that the denominational system would become permanent. A committee was formed to negotiate with the League, in the hope that they will modify their plan, so as to remove these objections.

A meeting convened by the Marylebone branch of the National Education League was held on Monday night at St. George's Hall, Langham-place. Mr. Joseph Guedalla presided, and, in opening the proceedings, read a letter of apology from Sir H. Hoare, M.P., in which he expressed a hope that the meeting would pass a resolution in favour of a system of purely secular education, and his regret that in the synopsis of a bill prepared by the Birmingham League there appeared to be a compromise in regard to that important and fundamental principle. One of the speakers, Mr. Crumer, said, that without compulsion the residuum, as Mr. Bright called it, could never be reached.

Almost within a stone's throw of that hall there was, he said, a magnificent school, to which the people of that district could send their children to receive a thoroughly sound education for a few pence per week; but he was told that that school was half empty, and it would always continue so until a compulsory clause was passed. Mr. Jenkins proposed as an addition to one of the resolutions to add "that the Bible at least should be read in schools," but this proposition was received with "hisses and uproar," and met with no second. A resolution having been moved in favour of a "compulsory, free, and unsectarian" system of education, the Rev. D. Canty, a Roman Catholic priest, moved as an amendment that the word "unsectarian" be omitted. He said that men who had any religious convictions themselves wished their children to be taught their own religion, which could not be done except in schools connected with that religion. The Catholics desired to see every child in the country educated, but they would give the most determined opposition—and they numbered nearly two millions in this country, and nearly twelve millions throughout the empire—to the establishment of schools where religion was not taught. Mr. Canty's speech excited much uproar and confusion, and ultimately the amendment was negatived, and resolutions in favour of the programme of the League carried.

Meetings in support of the League have also been held at Canterbury, Dudley, Stratford, and other places. At Stratford, Sir C. Dilke, M.P., said he had great confidence in Mr. Forster, but he doubted whether the Government measure would satisfy the League.

The Educational Union is also active, having held meetings during the week at Worcester, Leicester, Liverpool, &c. At the first-named place Canon Hastings said he was hopeful of the Government measure.

A National Education League for Ireland was started at Belfast on Monday. It will seek to maintain non-sectarian education in Ireland, and will oppose any change in the existing system except to further its development. The Bishop of Down, the Rev. John Macnaughten, and the Rev. William Arthur, and other speakers, took part in the proceedings.

Mr. Roebuck has been speaking on education at Nottingham and Meltham. In every parish there ought, he holds, to be two schools, an infant and an elementary school. Above these should come district schools, while the Universities would complete the system. If people will only apply their minds to it, and if the members of the Birmingham League and the Manchester Union will approach the question in a spirit of compromise, says Mr. Roebuck, the problem of the religious difficulty may be easily solved.

The Council of the Society of Arts propose to hold a conference on national education, on Monday next, with the view of attempting to harmonise into a measure practicable at the present time, the best features of the Manchester Education Union, the Manchester Education Bill, and the Birmingham Education League proposals.

## A THIEVES' SUPPER.

(From the Daily News.)

On Wednesday evening a curious and mournful gathering was held on the south side of the water. At the invitation of Ned Wright, himself a converted deserter, prizefighter, and housebreaker, about seventy female thieves, and about half that number of similarly bad characters belonging to the other sex, assembled in the Gospel Hall, New-out, Lambeth, to eat a supper of pea soup and bread, and to listen to the preaching of the Gospel. The "Gospel Hall," which is situated towards the Westminster-road end of the New-out, was formerly a "Penny Gaff," and it still bears many marks of its ancient appropriation. Within we find a pit, a gallery, and a platform. The pit—to apply that term to the body of the hall—and the gallery are furnished with plain benches and will hold together between 200 and 300 people. The supper being intended especially for female (as one given last week was devoted to male) thieves, the women had exclusive, or almost exclusive, possession of the floor, and the men were sent up into the gallery. Although the countenances of one or two seemed to indicate recollections of the crank, and to suggest possibilities of the lash, they behaved upon the whole very quietly and orderly. Once or twice while Wright was speaking he felt it necessary to call them to order, and at last he asked some of "our navy brethren" to go and sit among them. Their presence in the gallery was sufficient to procure complete silence among its occupants, and Ned had no further occasion to rebuke them. The women, who, as we have said, numbered about seventy, were of all ages, from sixteen to sixty, or probably more. Babies we do not include in this calculation. All the women and girls were, to judge from their appearance, thieves of the meanest and most miserable kind. There was no show of success or pride, or even bravado, about them. They did not include among their number a single specimen of the gentlemanly, elegantly-clad "lady" who filches a purse in an omnibus, or whips a roll of costly lace from a counter, or of the stalwart, flaunting, audacious "blowen" who holds a foolish "fast" man with her arms while her pal knocks him on the head and rifles his pockets of his watch and valuables. All had the appearance of petty paltry pilferers, and pilferers with whom pilfering had gone very hard, and to whom it had brought few gains, many punishments, and much suffering. With the exception of two or three girls on one of

\* Exhibition of Thirty Pounds per annum for Two Years.

† Exhibition of Twenty Pounds per annum for Two Years.

‡ Exhibition of Fifteen Pounds per annum for Two Years.

§ Prize of Ten Pounds.

|| Prize of Five Pounds.

¶ Disqualified by age for Third Prize.

\*\* Prize of Five Pounds.

the front benches, who wore bright wraps round their necks and showy feathers in their jaunty hats; the clothes of all were mean, and poor, and scanty; their faces were pinched and drawn by want and hunger, and their manner was watchful, timid, and cowed. Of the few girls who looked better fed and better clothed, who still retained some of the freshness of girlhood and some of the daring mirth of youth and innocence, two or three were afflicted with racking coughs that shook them at times from head to foot, which told a sad tale of constant exposure to wind, and rain, and storm, and threatened in unmistakable tones a speedy termination of their miserable careers. The supper which was provided consisted of large bowls of strong pea soup, replenishable at the will of the consumer, and huge lumps of good wholesome bread. The girls in the front places did not appear greatly to relish their entertainment. They laughed loudly, almost contemptuously, among themselves, when the huge bowls of steaming soup were presented to them; and, although they ultimately stowed away the "tuke" in pockets or shawls, they hardly touched the steaming liquid. Not so their older and more experienced fellow-criminals. With them the pangs of hunger were sharper. Soup and bread disappeared with equal rapidity, and more than one poor woman asked for and received another and yet another allowance.

After supper the women sang a hymn from a collection arranged by Ned Wright himself, and the old anthem, "I will arise, and go unto my Father." Both these pieces were, upon the whole, well sung, and in the latter, which seemed well known to most of the guests, their voices became quite musical with the music inspired by deep feeling and genuine interest. After offering up a prayer of moderate length, the more earnest appeals in which were responded to by the women with murmurs of sympathy and frequent utterances of the "Amen," Ned Wright read a portion of the 15th chapter of St. Luke, and then leaving the Prodigal Son envying the pigs whom it was his business to feed, dashed somewhat suddenly into a discourse which was half speech half sermon, and in some respects neither one nor the other. Wright, though essentially a street preacher, and having many of the faults and most of the characteristics of that class of orator, is still something more than a street preacher. Though sometimes inappropriately vehement in his manner, he can be really earnest and truly impassioned. His better manner is the colloquial. His matter is not well arranged, but he keeps his main subject well in view throughout, and his points are, as a rule, clear and telling. The principal topic of his address was the efficacy of the Atonement, the sufficiency of a belief in Christ the Redeemer to ensure salvation, and the certainty that all the sins of the believer are washed out and destroyed for ever by the blood of the Saviour. In the development of this theme he narrated several personal anecdotes, and these stories unquestionably more thoroughly secured the attention of his audience than did his more strictly theological arguments, or his most pathetic appeals. His own conversion, it seems, occurred at a religious service at Astley's Theatre some six or seven years ago. At that time he was engaged to fight Jack Conyers, of Bankside, and the first proof which he gave of his new condition of mind was to throw up that affair, much to the disgust of the "maddened" Mike Madden, who, according to his account, was only restrained by the direct intervention of Providence from knocking him down. Soon after his conversion he was without employment for thirteen weeks, and during that time he, his wife—who had always behaved well to him, and for whom he seems to have ever preserved a deep attachment—and his children, suffered the extreme of poverty. The best and most affecting passage in his speech was a description of a scene in his miserable home just at the close of this period. His wife had divided their last piece of hard dry bread between the two almost starving "bairns," who "took it without a murmur and never asked for butter," and they were sitting opposite to each other contemplating their future in blank despair. "My heart," we give his own words, "was broken, and the Devil suggested to me, 'Ned, you can get money, why don't you?' That started the tears to my eyes like rain. My heart beat like the clapper of a bell. My wife saw me, and started to speak. With her utterance choked, she said, 'Never mind, Ned, don't cry. A crust with Christ is better than the whole world without Him.' That very afternoon, at four o'clock, a man came to my house and told me of a job. I went to work for 25s. a week, and have never wanted a pound from that day to this." This simple story, told in almost trembling accents, entirely enchaind the attention of his audience, who almost sobbed out their sympathy with its narrator and his pious and courageous wife. The other most striking passages in the address were two in which he enforced upon his audience the fact that Christ was bruised, and beaten, and crucified, not for His own sins but for theirs; and contrasted the humanity of a sailor who held pure cold water to his lips while he was being flogged for desertion, with the malignant cruelty of those who, when Jesus of Nazareth cried for drink, handed Him vinegar mingled with gall. But another sentence, in which he assured his auditors that though they might blind the judges at Middlesex Sessions, they would be utterly unable to deceive God on the Day of Judgment, and that it would be impossible then for Martha to swear Betsy out of her trouble, seemed to come home more directly and pertinently to their minds. With these exceptions, it cannot fairly be said that Wright's address appeared to produce any great effect upon his audience. At first they listened to it with half-eager curiosity;

but they seemed unable to maintain their attention for many moments, and before long many of them began to chatter and gossip among themselves, only again inclining their ears to the speaker when he approached one of his more striking passages. At the close of the proceedings, each of the women received a substantial present of bread, tea, and sugar, and for this all seemed to be very grateful.

#### PRINCE ALFRED IN INDIA.

The papers and letters from India are filled with accounts of festivities in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh. There are especially long accounts of his investiture as Grand Commander of the Star of India. The ceremony is described as very splendid—the most splendid India has ever beheld. Nothing in modern times, the Calcutta papers declare, could be compared with the grandeur and brilliancy of the spectacle. For a suitable parallel it would be necessary to go back several centuries, and recall the gorgeous scenes of the Field of the Cloth of Gold. "Napoleon's *parties des Rois*, if more august, was," it is asserted, "certainly less resplendent and picturesque." The *Times of India* repeats these statements, and expresses its belief that they contain but little exaggeration. "Lord Mayo," it adds, "is just the man to see that an occasion of this kind is wanting in nothing that can add splendour to it: and never before has such an occasion for display presented itself."

A correspondent of one of the Calcutta papers, speaking of the native guests on the occasion of the Duke of Edinburgh's visit, says that Scindiah is ill and sulky. A favourite Minister, greatly trusted at Gwalior, has died during his absence, and so soon as the Star of India investiture may be over the Maharajah will return home. He wanted a guard of honour, but it has been decided not his due, so he is not best pleased. None of the native guests are in a good frame of mind according to all accounts. They all envy his Highness of Jeypore. There is hardly a chief among them who would not resign a gun for a quadrille with Lady Mayo. Not long ago a rajah telegraphed down to an official that he would present a lakh of rupees to a certain institution, "and secure me a dance with Lady Mayo." The illuminations appear to have been most successful, although some amusement was caused by an undertaker illuminating his premises with the word "Welcome." The Chinese determined not to be behindhand in displaying their loyalty, and constructed a transparency of rice paper, which they exhibited over a gateway. The design was a crown, with the large letters "V. R." on either side, and on three sides of the gateway were inscriptions in the Chinese character, welcoming "the son of Victoria." It speaks well for the orderly character of the spectators that, notwithstanding the crowds which assembled to witness the Prince's arrival, there was not a single prisoner in the lock-up at the head police-office on the following morning.

#### "DUST AND DISEASE"

In reference to Professor Tyndall's lecture at the Royal Institution, which was the topic of a leading article in our last number, Dr. Bree, senior physician to the Colchester Hospital, writes:—"The particles of organic matter which are constantly floating in the atmosphere are large enough to be visible to the naked eye; and hence, when removed by filtration through cotton wool, the black marks in the solar beam show that these larger organic particles have been removed. It is very different, however, with the presumed germs of disease. Whether they exist or not it is quite certain that they are invisible to the naked eye, and hence the black marks in Mr. Tyndall's experiments may be full of such germs, for aught the experiment teaches to the contrary. Everybody breathes air full of organic particles, but everybody does not thereby catch disease. It is doubtful, notwithstanding the experiments and researches of Dr. Healey, whether the germs of disease have ever been seen even by the most powerful microscope. It is quite clear, therefore, that they would pass through cotton wool with the atmosphere, and pass into the lungs as freely as the wool were absent. It is impossible to conceive any matter so infinitely divided as that which constitutes the so-called germ of infectious diseases. A person touches another with small-pox or scarlet fever, and, shaking hands with a healthy person miles away, may communicate the disease. A well-established case is recorded in which a German doctor brushed his coat in which he had visited a case of scarlet fever, and yet, although exposed to the air for fifteen months, it gave the disease to the person who then for the first time put it on. Could we discern the germs of disease through the microscope, we should know much more about them than we do. *A fortiori*, how great would be our knowledge could we see them with the naked eye in a sunbeam and intercept them from our lungs by a respirator of cotton wool!"

In replying through the *Pall Mall Gazette*, Professor Tyndall remarks that the deep blue sky visible from the top of the Matterhorn is, or may be, produced by particles suspended in the air which are not only invisible to the naked eye, but irreducible by the highest powers of the microscope? That hence, without seeing the individual particles, we may have indubitable evidence of their existence. "This, indeed, is the point wherein my method differs from preceding ones, and is, I think, destined powerfully to supplement them. The microscope seeks for single particles; I take them *en masse*, and can demonstrate their existence by the light which they scatter after they have

passed utterly beyond the range of the microscope. Were the "dark spaces" referred to by Dr. Bree "full of germs," I should, in my opinion, have there the blue of the sky instead of "the darkness of stellar space." "It is doubtful," says Dr. Bree, "whether the germs of disease have ever been seen by the most powerful microscope; it is therefore clear that they would pass through cotton wool with the atmosphere, and pass into the lungs as though the wool were absent." My experiments render the very reverse of this "quite clear" to me. I have been favoured by Dr. Angus Smith with a copy of his fifth annual report, from which I glean some interesting facts regarding the air of Manchester. To catch in water the floating matter of the air, Dr. Smith places a small quantity of the liquid in a bottle and shakes it up with successive charges of air. In one instance he did this 500 times, and then handed over his bottle to an able microscopist, Mr. J. B. Dancer, for examination. The bottle had been shaken in the open air, through which, however, Dr. Smith could not see any dust blowing; at all events, if there were dust, it was only such as people are called upon to breathe. Here are some of the revelations of Mr. Dancer:—

*Fungoid Matter.*—Spores, or sporidia, appeared in numbers, and, to ascertain as nearly as possible the numerical proportion of these bodies in a single drop of the liquid, the contents of the bottle were well shaken, and then one drop was taken up with a pipette. This was spread out by compression to a circle half an inch in diameter. A magnifying power was then employed, which gave a field of view of an area exactly 100th of an inch in diameter, and it was found that more than 100 spores were contained in this space. Consequently the average number of spores in a single drop would be 250,000. These spores varied from 10,000th to 50,000th of an inch in diameter.

For the purpose of obtaining a rough approximation to the number of spores or germs of organic matter contained in the entire fluid received from Dr. Smith, I measured a quantity by the pipette, and found it contained 150 drops of the size used in each examination. Now I have previously stated that in each drop were about 250,000 of these spores, and as there were 150 drops, the sum total reaches the startling number of 37½ millions; and these, exclusive of other substances, were collected from 2,405 litres of the air of this city—a quantity which would be respired in about ten hours by a man of ordinary size when actively employed. I may add that there was a marked absence of particles of carbon among the collected matter.

Apart from other effects, the mere mechanical irritation produced by the deposition of these particles in tender lungs must go for something. They may be entirely withheld by a cotton wool respirator. In various dusty trades and occupations the respirator will also be found a comfort and protection. I may add, in reference to inquiries addressed to me, that the respirator is placed unconditionally at the disposal of medical men."

#### Postscript.

#### LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

The *Official Journal* of France publishes the nominations of 27 prefects of departments. Three prefects are to retire from their present posts, four have been appointed to other offices in the State, and two are placed on the retired list.

Rumours are again prevailing in Paris of an impending dissolution of M. Ollivier's newly-formed Ministry.

The deputation of the mayors was received by the King and Queen of the Belgians, at the Ducal Palace, Brussels, at 12 o'clock yesterday. The richly ornamented silver casket was presented by Colonel Gourley, and his Majesty applied to the address, which was delivered at the same time. A large crowd thronged the streets in order to witness the procession of the mayors to the Palace, and many English residents were present at the ceremony.

A letter from Rome in the *Débats* says that the Pope is very anxious for the proceedings of the Council to terminate as soon as possible. "Some people think," adds the writer, "that the cause of this is the expense occasioned by maintaining such a large number of bishops. I do not believe that such is the real motive; for the Holy Father has received from the universal episcopacy ten times more money than he would spend for that purpose during a year's stay of the bishops; but the uncertainty he is in with regard to the definition of his favourite dogma makes him desirous of obtaining a speedy solution. Under no circumstances is it considered that the Council will be prolonged beyond next June."

#### MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

No improvement has taken place in the general character of the grain trade at Mark-lane to-day, and, although no further reduction has taken place, the downward tendency has continued. The receipts of wheat from Essex and Kent were only moderate. Sales have progressed slowly in all qualities, at Monday's decline in prices. There was a good show of foreign wheat on the stands, for which the inquiry was restricted, at about late rates. Moderate supplies of barley have been on offer. The demand has been limited, at previous quotations. Malt was dull, on former terms. The show of oats has been good. Sales have progressed slowly, at about previous currencies. Beans and peas have been quiet. Flour has sold heavily, at barely stationary prices.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.					
	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English & Scotch	1,460	230	300	—	—
Irish .....	—	—	—	—	—
Foreign .....	2,040	4,460	—	2,270	580 sks.
					1,450 brls.
					Maize, 17,890 qrs.

# SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

The LONDON YOUNG MEN'S COMMITTEE have the pleasure to announce that the following CONFERENCES on the present position of the STATE CHURCH QUESTION will be held, viz.:-

TUESDAY, 8th February.—ISLINGTON (Cross-street). Opener, Rev. J. CLIFFORD, M.A., LL.B. Chairman, Rev. C. BAILHACHE.

WEDNESDAY, 16th February.—TOWN HALL, HACKNEY. Opener, Rev. J. ALLANSON, PICTON, M.A.; Chairman, CHARLES REED, Esq., M.P.

TUESDAY, 15th March.—HOLLOWAY CHAPEL. Opener, H. SELFE LEONARD, Esq.; Chairman, Rev. J. MARK WILKS.

To commence at Eight o'clock.

The attendance of Ladies is specially invited.

As other Conferences are in course of arrangement, the COMMITTEE will be happy to RECEIVE APPLICATIONS from INSTITUTIONS or CHAPELS desirous of being visited.

WILLIAM THEOBALD, Hon. Sec.

2, Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street.

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# The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1870.

## SUMMARY.

PARLIAMENT assembles on Tuesday next, and will be opened by commission, in consequence of the weakness of her Majesty after her recent indisposition. The customary banquets which precede the inaugural ceremony have been duly announced, and we now learn that Lord Cairns will, for a time at least, resume his position as Conservative leader in the Upper House. A host of M.P.'s have addressed their constituents during the past week, but there are no indications, and have been none during the recess, of any intention on the part of Liberal members to break away from their allegiance to Mr. Gladstone, although the questions which are likely to be discussed, such as the Irish Land and Education Bills, will allow more latitude of opinion than was visible last Session.

During the past week the rival educational schemes have been discussed in various parts of the country. The more popular meetings have in the main endorsed the scheme of the Birmingham League, with a decided leaning in favour of a purely secular system. Though at a Marylebone meeting the Rev. D. Canty warned the Leaguers "that any plan of education not deeply religious would be opposed by the nearly twelve millions of Catholics in the empire," his proposal to omit the words "wholly unsectarian" was almost unanimously voted down. The agitation is extending to Ireland. An Irish National Education League has been started in Belfast for the purpose of promoting an unsectarian system; while at the influential Welsh conference held at Aberystwith last week the Birmingham association were urged to "except altogether from their bill the provision for religious instruction being imparted in the school buildings before, during, or after school hours," and that equitable arrangements should be made to insist with the managers of existing schools upon "their immediate and early union with the national system," under penalty of the cessation of State assistance. Welsh Nonconformists are dissatisfied with the League scheme, because it concedes too much to the present system; the Manchester Union party because it concedes too little. It is to be observed that influential supporters of the Union express a confident belief that Mr. Forster's forthcoming Bill will give more satisfaction to themselves than to the supporters of the League.

The Free Trade debates in the French Legislative Body are at length concluded. That assembly has, by an overwhelming majority, ratified the decision of the Government to continue the Treaty of Commerce with England till after full inquiry into its operation by an impartial commission, and the whole discussion has greatly discouraged the Protectionist party.

In his peculiar view on the subject, M. Thiers almost stands alone, and his elaborate speeches seem to have produced little result inside or outside the Chamber.

Notwithstanding their success last week in the Legislature, there are persistent reports that the new Ministry are falling to pieces, owing either to internal differences, or, as some allege, to intrigues against it, which are not discouraged at the Tuileries. It is difficult to believe such rumours. M. Ollivier exercises a marked ascendancy in the Legislative Body, and continues to gain in public favour. His circular to the Procureurs-Général on the free expression of opinion, his proposals to abolish the political oath and to abrogate the obnoxious Law of General Safety, as well as hold his administrative reforms, such as the dismissal of twenty-seven arbitrary prefects, are proofs of his firm adherence to a Liberal policy. Though some of colleagues may retire, the Keeper of the Seals cannot be dispensed with.

To-day there is to be another public sitting of what is better termed the Vatican than the Ecumenical Council at Rome, but it does not appear that there are any decrees ripe for promulgation. Though no reports of the Council are permitted, the correspondents of the European press do manage to pick up a great deal of information. We learn that the address in favour of Infallibility, with some 400 signatures, has been formally presented to Pius IX., and that the counter-address, with about 140 names attached to it—including the most eminent prelates of the Romish Church—has also been forwarded through the Chamberlain, as though it were a complimentary card. All the Pope's injunctions about secrecy and moderation are disregarded by the Council. His proposals about doctrine and discipline; his suggestions for diminishing the authority of the prelates, and exalting himself into a kind of grand Lama, superior to and independent of councils; his anathemas against every man who presumes to doubt the necessity of the Pope having any temporal power, or even to question the wholesomeness of sacerdotal influence in civil powers—are all freely discussed and almost denounced by some of the eloquent and independent bishops who have been convened to exalt his prerogatives. Whether or not the great dogma will be proclaimed, or the recalcitrant Council adjourned in confusion for some months, it is certain that the spectacle presented at St. Peter's is producing a powerful impression throughout Catholic Europe. As the *Times* remarks, Pius IX. "has raked up long-forgotten controversies; unearthed deeply-buried scandals; laid bare that long tissue of fraud and crime which constitutes the history of the Roman Pontificate," and provoked a discussion on Papal infallibility, which so many good Catholics took for granted, that is "by no means unlikely to break up Papal supremacy and accomplish ecclesiastical emancipation."

It is announced that the incipient negotiations for a settlement of the Alabama difficulty have fallen through. In connection with this statement we may note that the New York correspondent of the *Daily News* utters a warning that the proposal to settle this difference by the surrender of Canada to the United States finds increasing favour on the other side of the Atlantic. "A great number of politicians at Washington," he says, "approve of the Alabama affair being kept open till the time comes when England will have become sufficiently familiar with the scheme to make it possible to propose it to her without ruffling the national susceptibilities too much. The petition from British Columbia for annexation, the troubles on the Red River, the steady drift of population from Canada over the border, and the Nova Scotia discontent, are all taken as signs that the time is not far distant when you will not look on a proposal to abandon your foothold on this continent, and shake hands with the United States before going, as so unreasonable and extravagant a proposition as you do now." But surely the Canadians would have a voice in the decision, and they are now free to act according to their own interests.

A disquieting rumour which prevailed last week has received some confirmation from a letter in this morning's *Times*. Captain Cochrane, commanding her Majesty's ship *Peterel*, on the West Coast of Africa, reports on the authority of a Portuguese trader that Dr. Livingstone had been killed and burnt by the natives ninety days' journey from the Congo. "He passed through a native town, and was three days on his journey when the king of the town died. The natives declared Livingstone had bewitched their King, and he must die. They then killed him and burnt him." It is stated that the hapless explorer was making his way down the Congo River with a view to emerge, as Sir R. Murchison believed he would, on the western coast,

from which side of the continent comes this serious and we fear authentic report. Probably the rumour will be authoritatively confirmed or denied before another week has elapsed.

## THE COMING SESSION.

"LET not him that putteth on his armour boast as he that putteth it off." This is an admonition which instantly rises to our mind in essaying to forecast, even in the most general terms, the probabilities of "the coming Session." On Tuesday next Parliament will be reassembled, and the Royal Speech, delivered by Commission, will indicate—what indeed is already pretty confidently conjectured—the line of domestic policy which her Majesty's Ministers intend to pursue. The nation already knows that they are pledged to bring in a measure, or it may be a group of measures, intended to remedy agrarian injustice, and to check agrarian outrage, in Ireland. The Home Secretary is committed to a reform of the licensing system with a view to put some restrictions on the sale of intoxicating drink. Trades' unions are promised a measure for permanently legalising the protection of their funds, and for defining the limits within which they may be employed without coming under the condemnation of the law for being used "in restraint of trade." We trust a measure for the compulsory abolition of religious tests in the two national Universities and in the colleges affiliated to them, will be introduced by Government and carried through both Houses of Parliament. We are not equally anxious that a Bill should be brought forward this Session to deal with the difficult question of primary education. Many indications conduct us to the conclusion that the Liberal party is not yet fully prepared to agree upon the principles upon which such a measure should be based, and it is surely due to that party that any settlement should fairly represent its preponderant convictions, and should not, by means of a hasty compromise, snatch from it all chance of obtaining a thoroughly broad and national organisation of the public schools of the country. We should desire, as we believe the party itself would desire, a further ripening of the public mind upon this matter, and in lieu of a legislative scheme for its settlement next Session, should prefer, as at once more opportune and more likely to lead to satisfactory results, a measure for regulating procedure at elections, and making provision for taking votes by Ballot. Of course, retrenchment in expenditure, and some consequent relief of taxation, may be anticipated with some certainty, and, should the Chancellor of the Exchequer submit to the House and to the country a Budget worthy of the capabilities of the case, and worthy, we may add, of his own reputation, he will throw a brilliant light over the achievements of the Session.

It is taken for granted by Tory scribes that the questions with which the Gladstone administration will have to grapple next Session, are of a nature which will almost of necessity separate its supporters into jarring sections. It is impossible for us to say that such will not be the case; but this we may confidently affirm, that there have appeared as yet no more decisive indications that the Liberals will be split into divisions by the Irish Land Bill of the Government than they were by the Irish Church Bill of last year. So far as we have been able to observe from the intercourse of members with their constituents, and from the public utterances which such intercourse has called forth, there is no reason to apprehend any such disagreement of opinion as would threaten serious defection from the Liberal ranks. There is no more probability that a Cave of Adullam will be instituted in regard to reform of the relations between landlord and tenant in Ireland, than there was in relation to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church. For aught that appears to the contrary, the Ministry is as able to grapple successfully with the greatest of the questions that will come before Parliament this Session, as they proved themselves to be last year. Unquestionably, upon what may be called the minor topics upon which legislation is desirable, there is a close approach to unanimity by almost all the recognised members of the Liberal party. It is true no one can foresee the accidents which may upset all previous calculation; but we think it may be safely assumed that, barring accidents, there is nothing in the aspect of the times, nor in the attitude of the people, nor in the nature of the work to be done, nor in the qualifications of the men who will have to do it, which should lead to the fear of any such failure as would alter the relations of political parties towards each other.

It cannot be denied that the Conservative party will come to the work of this Session under circumstances of great disadvantage, as compared with the last. They are without a recognised leader; they are divided in their sentiments; they are discouraged and demoralised by the defeats they have sustained; they have lost faith, if not in their principles, yet in their own power to uphold them; and they are conscious that, whatever may be the obstinacy of the struggle they may make, the things which they would fain preserve are foredoomed to extinction. It is rumoured—we know not upon what authority—that Mr. Disraeli will not oppose the adoption of the Ballot. It is certain, we believe, that Lord Derby will recommend, by his vote, and probably by his voice, the Abolition of University Tests. We apprehend that all parties will be glad to carry a good measure for the reform of our present licensing system. The main question upon which difference of opinion would be likely to arise, and party feeling to be exhibited, is that of elementary schools; and that question is one which it is by no means sure the Cabinet will deem itself at liberty to bring forward until further time has been given to the nation for discussion and reflection. All things taken into account, it would seem not at all impossible that the course of legislation may run smoother than has recently been the case. We should be sorry to hazard a confident prediction that such a gratifying fact will be; but, on the whole, if such it should be, we think there would be no sufficient ground for amazement thereat.

"There is nothing which succeeds like success." There is nothing which will obtain for the present Administration larger or more certain victories than the general belief of their countrymen that they are both able and destined to win them. The Conservatives have been compelled to change their front. They suffer, in consequence, an immense disadvantage. They seem to be conscious of it by the subdued tone in which they speak of the future. Let us hope that they will be reasonable, and aim at no higher results than those which legitimately come within the province of a Parliamentary Opposition to aspire to. So we shall have a comparatively pleasant Session, and, albeit laborious, it will be pre-eminently fruitful.

#### THE POLITICAL EVICTIONS IN WALES.

We have more than once called attention to this subject, and may have to do so again. Two months since, it will be remembered, a conference of representatives from all parts of the Principality was held at Aberystwyth, at which it was resolved to render such assistance as might be necessary to the sufferers from landlord tyranny in Wales by means of a fund, the product of donations and of collections in all the chapels of the Principality. It was further decided to raise a guarantee fund of 20,000*l.* "to provide for the contingency of any future evictions that may be enforced on account of votes given at the last election." To assist our struggling friends in the Principality, who have, we believe, done their part, a London committee has been formed, which, as will be seen from an advertisement elsewhere, intend to make a public appeal on Monday next to the sympathy of metropolitan Liberals and Nonconformists.

The main facts of the case have often been stated, but will bear repetition. Wales, not many years ago, was the stronghold of Toryism, though an overwhelming majority of the population were Nonconformists. The tenant-farmers had votes, but their votes were treated as the property of their landlords. But an awakening took place. The last general election turned upon the disestablishment of the Irish Church, just the kind of questions to interest a religious people like the sturdy Welsh Dissenters, and so strongly was their independence manifested that no less than twenty-four of the thirty-three seats in the Principality were won by the Liberal party. The discomfited Tories took a characteristic revenge, which we cannot more forcibly describe than in the words of a statement now before us:—"After the election was over, a certain number of the Conservative landlords in several of the Welsh counties served notices to quit on such of their tenants as had voted for the Liberal candidates, and even on some who had no votes, but whose relatives had taken an active part on the Liberal side. There were scores of such notices served upon men whose characters were confessedly irreproachable, who had always paid their rents punctually and to the penny, who had expended largely both of their industry and capital in the improvement of the soil, and who had been, or whose families had been, in occupation of their holdings often for scores, and sometimes for hundreds, of years. Since the question was

brought before Parliament, many of those notices have been dropped or withdrawn. But a considerable number have been ruthlessly carried into effect. Many honest, industrious, estimable men, who were guilty of no offence but that of voting according to their consciences, have, with their wives and children, been turned out of house and home, their stock and crop sold by auction, and the fruit of all the labour bestowed by them upon the land, taken from them without any compensation. There can be no doubt that the object of these evictions is not merely to punish those who resisted landlord dictation, but to terrify the whole class of tenant-farmers throughout Wales, and deter them from following an independent course hereafter."

These general allegations have been only too well substantiated by an appeal to facts. The *Cambria Daily Leader* sent a special commissioner into Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire, who investigated the most flagrant cases of eviction, and challenged contradiction of their accuracy as published in that paper. Some fifty specific cases are given, of which the following—by no means the worst—are samples:—

David Davies, Rhosgoch. He and his family have lived on the farm of Rhos for seventy years. Nearly all the buildings have been erected at their sole expense. The greater part of the land was a swamp when they had it originally, and you could only pass with difficulty, even on foot, in wet weather. David Davis plumped for Sartoris, and received notice to quit in due course. The agent refused to put a price upon the farm, and Davis was obliged to go to go to a small house of his own, with a few acres of ground attached to it. The neighbours know of no cause in the treatment of the land, or state of buildings, to warrant such conduct, and no fault has ever been found with him by the landlord or his agent.

Evan Thomas, of Glantrenfawr, has held his farm for the last ten years, his wife having lived there over twenty, and her family had been on the estate for upwards of eighty years. Is considered an excellent farmer, and always ready to oblige his landlord in every possible way, except politically. He plumped for Mr. Sartoris; was evicted by his landlord, and is now without house or home for his wife and family, having been unable to obtain a farm.

Thomas Morgan, of Tynyffordd, in the parish of Llanfihangel, Croyddyn: He is 60 years of age, and was brought up on the farm. Before the election, he was severely pressed by the agents and messengers from Nanteos. On several occasions he was summoned to meet his landlord, Colonel Powell, personally, once at Nanteos and once at Devil's Bridge, where agents and sub-agents as well were assembled to awe him to submission. He declined to promise, and he was then hard pressed to remain neutral, which he also declined to promise. He voted for Mr. Richards, and received notice to quit in due course, and being unable to obtain a farm, was obliged to remove into a cottage.

John Jones, Trefechan, near Aberystwyth, keeps a large number of cows for the supply of Aberystwyth with milk, and had for many years rented some fields from Colonel Powell, which being accommodation land were very convenient. Being a staunch Liberal, he voted for Mr. Richards, and, of course, lost his land, and has been subjected to great inconvenience.

Jenkin James, Wernddu, Llanbadarn, Croyddyn, occupied a farm for ten years, on the Nanteos estate, and stood very high in the estimation of his neighbours as a hard-working and skilful farmer. He had spent a considerable sum of money on repairs, and the permanent improvement of the farm. He voted for Mr. Richards, and was deprived of his farm, and being unable to obtain another, he now lives with his mother.

William Griffiths, Nanteos Arms, Llanbadarn-y-Croyddyn, had occupied a farm on the Nanteos estate for upwards of half a century, and was considered an excellent farmer. He had laid out a considerable sum on draining and permanent improvements, the whole of which is now sacrificed as he voted for Mr. Richards, and was subsequently evicted.

That these evictions—which are only specimens of what took place in Wales after the last general election—were due to political causes, there is not a shadow of a doubt. When we find that threats in many instances were held out beforehand by landlords and agents, that in some cases the proprietors insisted on their tenants going in a body, like a herd of serfs, to the poll to vote for the squire's favourite candidate, and that in every case it was a Liberal who was ejected, all pretence of dismissal for "slovenly farming," &c., is evidently an afterthought.

There is but one way of dealing with such odious violations of individual right and the spirit of the British Constitution. The oppressors cannot be reached by the law, or by Royal Commission; but they can be influenced by public opinion, and by action such as that originated by the Aberystwyth Conference. We rejoice, therefore, that the Welsh political martyrs, suffering for conscience' sake, are to be succoured, and that the cruel terrorism exercised by usurping landlords will continue to be denounced. Only thus can the Principality be politically emancipated. Only thus can the votes which are conferred upon the tenant-farmers of Wales, as a high privilege, be prevented from being turned into a curse to their possessors. By constant publicity of such wrongs, and by appeals to the sympathy of all who value independence and constitutional right, can such acts of oppression alone be put down. English Liberals owe a great debt of gratitude to these Welsh heroes who have so nobly suffered for their common

principles. They are asked "for such an expression of their sympathy as will not only relieve the victims of this political persecution from their sore distress, but also effectually prevent for the future all similar attempts to control the franchise by coercion and terror." If such sympathy should be manifested at next Monday's meeting, and by liberal contributions to the fund now being raised, we shall probably hear little more in future of landlord oppression, or of attempts to perpetuate political serfdom, in the Principality.

#### THE ADMISSION OF VIRGINIA.

THE Atlantic cable has recently informed us of one of those unique events in the history of the United States, which mark the close of an exceptional era, and need such explanations as the telegraph cannot supply. By the readmission of Virginia into Congress, the work of reconstruction has advanced another stage towards completion. In both Houses of Congress there has been an acrimonious contest on the subject. This important State has exhibited a strong tendency to resist or evade the decisions of Congress, and to ignore civil equality between white and black as prescribed by law. The Radical Republicans have therefore sought to punish her. It was attempted to enforce upon the new Virginian Legislature the stringent "iron-clad oath" required in connection with all the constituent assemblies convened for the purpose of adopting such new constitutions as Congress might approve of, but not required of the members of the legislatures created by them. The enforcement of the oath in the present case would have excluded all the conspicuous members of the Virginia Assembly, and have given the Radical Republicans an arbitrary ascendancy in the State. Two Bills were brought into Congress—one by the "Reconstruction Committee," admitting Virginia on condition that every official should take a test oath, and that no laws should ever be passed depriving the negroes of their equal rights guaranteed by the amended Constitution: the other by Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, allowing the State, which had "in all respects conformed to the Act of Congress," to come back again without further conditions.

For several days these two measures were discussed in the House of Representatives. The debate revealed a serious split in the Republican ranks. The Conservative section contended, not without reason, that the more stringent Bill gave the sanction of Congress to a breach of faith, and would in effect abrogate State rights; the Radical members argued in favour of putting some restraint on the reactionary tendencies of the majority in Virginia. By the aid of the Democrats Mr. Bingham's Bill was carried on a close division by 98 to 95 votes, but it was eventually passed by 142 to 49, and sent up to the Senate. In this assembly another lively and protracted discussion of two days' duration took place. Mr. Sumner and his allies did not succeed in preventing the reception of Mr. Bingham's Bill, but they did succeed in grafting on it certain safeguards, such as a limited test oath, and the prohibition of any distinction on account of colour in schools or public places. Thus amended the measure has been passed by both Houses of Congress and sanctioned by President Grant. Last Thursday the representatives of Virginia took their seats.

This event illustrates in a striking manner the changed feeling towards the South which, since the last Presidential Election, has been manifest in the Northern States. There is no general desire to degrade and irritate the once rebellious States in order to serve the party purposes of the Republicans—to substitute one tyranny for another. That policy has not answered in Tennessee, where chronic anarchy prevailed till the government of the State was secured to the representatives of the majority of the people. It is felt throughout the North that when the excluded States have accepted the reasonable safeguards provided by Congress, and ratified the Fourteenth Constitutional Amendment, forbidding any political disabilities on the ground of colour or race—which needs only two more votes to give it effect—all that is reasonable and expedient, has been done to protect Southern loyalists, and shield the coloured race from oppression. Even the *New York Tribune*, the zealous anti-slavery organ, recommends "liberality and trustfulness" in dealing with the Gulf States, and accepted Mr. Bingham's Bill as "foreclosing all effort—at least, all successful effort—to make the conditions of restoration harsh or degrading." One or two States, such as Georgia and Texas, still remain out, but there cannot be much delay in their admission to Congress after the decision in the case of Virginia.

The Republican party in the United States

has done its work. In the last phase of the reconstruction contest it has been shattered to pieces. When all the Southern States are represented in Congress, new combinations will be formed, and it is probable that the question of the future will be an economical one. As soon as the maintenance of the protective system—which, as Mr. Commissioner Wells has shown, paralyses the trade and commerce of the Union—comes up for reconsideration, the West will join the South in demanding something approaching to free trade; and in the keen struggle which is likely to ensue, the party names and symbols which have for so many years been prominent, will cease to have any meaning and be forgotten.

#### NATIONALISING THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

We are about to commence another chapter in the history of British electric telegraphy. On and after Saturday next the whole of the electric telegraphs in this country will be worked by Government officials, a change with which the name of Mr. Frank Ives Scudamore will become as closely associated as is that of Sir Rowland Hill with the system of penny postage. The purchase of the various telegraphs was almost forced upon the Government. The public have, during the last few years, been virtually at the mercy of the telegraph companies, whose conduct afforded another corroboration of the accuracy of the doctrine, that, whatever may be the case among private firms and small dealers, it is impossible, where powerful companies are concerned, for the public to enjoy, for any length of time, the advantage of a free and genuine competition. As in the case of the railway, gas, water, and other large companies, the idea of any real competition among the telegraphic associations was purely chimerical. The electric telegraphic system had in this country become little better than a huge monopoly, sustained for the advantage of a comparative few, instead of being brought within the reach of the many. The importance of its being rendered an auxiliary of our present postal system has been obvious almost from the very first, but it was not until within the last few years that any decisive steps were taken for the purpose of amalgamating the telegraphs with the Post-office. Although we possessed several companies, professedly in competition with each other, their united working produced results considerably less favourable than had been obtained in some parts of the continent, where the telegraphic lines were managed under Government control. The operations of the companies were almost entirely restricted to great centres of business, the result being the exclusion of hundreds of places, enjoying the advantages of postal service, especially in the agricultural districts, from any participation in the benefits arising from the possession of electric communication with other parts of the kingdom. In other words, our system of electric telegraphy was partial instead of universal. The deficiencies and inconveniences complained of could be remedied only by an amalgamation of the existing companies, a matter obviously impracticable, and which, were it otherwise, might lead to evils greater than those for which a remedy was sought.

The more the subject was discussed, the more palpable became the necessity for the Government assuming the charge of the telegraphs—the system being one of those to which the ordinary laws of political economy do not apply; and despite the opposition of the telegraphic companies, represented by Mr. George Ward Hunt, M.P., and others, it was agreed that the Government should be empowered to purchase the whole of the telegraphs, and place them in the hands of the Post-office authorities. The purchase-money has just been paid, and the nation is now the possessor of the 66,000 miles of wire which traverse the country in all directions. Henceforth every leading post-office will be also a telegraphic station, and as the system becomes developed, it will be attempted to bring every place, however humble, within the sphere of operations. A change so vast and comprehensive was not to be effected without extensive preparations. Accordingly the Post-office authorities have been actively engaged, during the last few months, in getting ready for the new state of things. Numbers of persons connected with the provincial post-offices have been specially instructed in the use of the telegraphs, the Great Hall of the building in St. Martin's-le-Grand having been closed for that purpose against the public; at the same time the services of most of the operators and clerks in the employment of the different companies have been retained. All the best features of the existing modes of telegraphy will be adopted, nothing being neglected to secure accuracy, rapidity of transmission, and secrecy. The manner in which the small

provincial post-offices have been fitted up as telegraphic offices, furnishes a favourable specimen of the way in which things are likely to be conducted under the new régime. A waggon, drawn by two horses, and fitted up with all necessary appliances, was drawn from town to town, and from post-office to post-office, where the requisite alterations were made without any fuss or delay, and in a proper manner. Indeed, so quietly was the whole thing done, that in some parts of the home counties, the inhabitants scarcely knew of the changes which had been effected in their post-offices. The alterations, however, were not very considerable. They consisted merely of forming an enclosed space for the reception of messages, desks for the use of operators and the public, and a stand for the telegraphic apparatus. Still, everything depended upon these being done well.

The effects of the new system will be immediately felt, although the full advantages arising from the change will require some time to become properly developed. The public will become gainers in three important items, namely, cheapness, security, and increased facilities of transmission. The charge for a telegram of twenty words, the names of sender and recipient being free, to any part of the kingdom, including delivery, will be one shilling. Within the limits of one mile from any terminal station the telegrams will be delivered by special messengers; outside those limits, by the ordinary letter-carriers. A charge of threepence is imposed for every additional five words, and all messages, no matter from whom received, will be forwarded in the order in which they arrived. Payment is to be made by means of stamps, to the value of the telegram, affixed to the form on which the message is written. These messages, folded up and fastened as letters, and properly addressed, may be dropped into any post-office or pillar-box, whence they will be taken to the head office of the district, and instantaneously despatched to their destination. In London, as in the large provincial cities and towns, every encouragement will be afforded for the development of local business. In London alone, no less than from 200 to 250 telegraphic offices will be in full operation within the next few days, and it is anticipated that, before the expiration of a couple of years, the number will have become doubled. Every precaution is taken to ensure secrecy, officials divulging the contents of any telegram being liable on conviction to twelve months' imprisonment. The average time during which the offices will remain open is twelve hours, but at the head offices in London, Manchester, Glasgow, and similar places, messages will be received at all hours of the day and night. In addition to the despatch and receipt of messages furnished by the public, the Post-office operators will be entrusted with numerous other duties. Among these will be that of reporting the state of the weather daily. In England, Greenwich mean-time will be despatched every day, except on Sundays, at ten a.m., to every telegraph office in Great Britain, Dublin time being forwarded at the same time to the Irish offices. In any locality where important public proceedings are likely to take place, due notice of the same must be given by the post-master to the central office, so that due preparations may be made to meet the anticipated strain on the services of the telegraphs. In like manner every possible contingency is carefully provided for, the one great object being the maximum of public convenience at the minimum of expense.

The probable results of the new system may be inferred from the experience gained in North Germany, Belgium, and Switzerland. In Prussia, during the early days of the electric telegraph, its use was almost exclusively confined to bankers, stockbrokers, large commercial houses, and newspaper correspondents; but with each reduction of rates or extension of telegraphic facilities to small towns, the number of those regularly sending and receiving messages has exhibited considerable increase. In Belgium, especially, the results of the State management of the electric telegraphs have amply confirmed the soundness of Mr. Scudamore's assertion, that "reductions in the rate of charge have invariably brought a new class of business to swell the telegraphic revenue, that lower rates have enabled small traders, shopkeepers, and so forth, to employ the telegraph in the transaction of their business, in cases where a high tariff would have precluded its use; and that each reduction has directly tended not only to a more extended use of the telegraph among the trading classes generally, but also to popularise the telegraph among the general public, and to induce a free resort to it under circumstances quite apart from commercial purposes." In Austria the number of messages in 1851, when the average cost of each was 2.86 florins, was 44,911; in 1866, when the average cost was reduced to 0.65 florins, the number was 2,507,472. In Belgium the number of messages in

1851, when the average cost of each was over six francs, was 14,095; in 1866, when the average charge did not exceed eighty-five centimes (4½d.), the number was 1,128,005. This will afford some idea of the magnitude of the revolution which has been so quietly effected. We have entered upon a new era of telegraphic enterprise, one which cannot fail to perceptibly influence the entire social and industrial future of the kingdom, yet which, like most really great events, has scarcely attracted the notice its importance merits, and which it will, sooner or later, inevitably receive.

#### Foreign and Colonial.

##### FRANCE.

At Wednesday's sitting of the Legislative Body, M. Esquiros questioned the Ministry relative to the despatch of troops to Creuzot. He strongly condemned the military interference of the Government, which, he said, might have caused a renewal of the scenes of bloodshed lately enacted at Ricamarie and at Aubin, and he concluded by urging the abandonment of such a dangerous policy. M. Chevandier de Waldrome, the Minister of the Interior, in reply, said that he sent 3,000 men to Creuzot to protect order and the freedom of labour, which appeared to be threatened, and that in the event of similar occurrences again arising the Government intended to pursue the same course. M. Gambetta having energetically criticised the measures taken by the Ministry, which he considered contrary to justice, inasmuch as two opposing interests were concerned. M. Emile Ollivier rose, and said:—

Now let us see how the Government acted in this business at the Creuzot works. There are 10,000 hands employed there; a strike took place; information received by the Government notified that a portion of the hands were determined to use pressure to prevent the greater number from returning to their work, and if precautions were not taken a serious conflict was likely to arise between the strikers and the non-strikers. Well, suppose the Government, in possession of such information, had quietly sat down and done nothing, suppose a collision had taken place, and a single workman had been wounded, I fancy I can hear what a life the Opposition would have led us. (Noise, applause.)

M. Gambetta: No, no never.  
M. Ollivier: I can only hearing them tell us, "You brought it all about yourselves. You knew that a disturbance was probable, and you did not stir a finger to prevent it." (Cries of "That's it.") And I must admit that if we had been guilty of so gross a neglect of duty, the Opposition would have been quite right. We therefore immediately dispatched a very large force to Creuzot. Why? Precisely in order to prevent the possibility of bloodshed. (*Tres bien, tres bien.*) In such cases, if only small detachments are sent to a place where riots are impending, their presence acts as a kind of provocation. The rioters think that they can crush the troops by sheer weight of numbers; they mob them, they threaten them, they pelt them with stones. The soldiers get impatient and angry—a shot is fired, and blood is shed. Now, we will not have any bloodshed. We set our face against it. (Loud applause.) Yes, it is precisely because we feel a deep and affectionate interest in the working classes, because we were determined that women should not be widowed, and children made orphans, that we sent a force large enough to deter even the wildest from an attempt at violence. When the troops arrived, they were not called upon to interfere. They remained there utterly passive—took no part in the quarrel between employers and employed, ready to protect all whose rights or whose property might have been perilled. For greater security the Minister of Justice sent a Procureur-Général to the spot, and the Minister of War a general of brigade. And here let M. Esquiros, who is so competent an authority on English affairs, permit me to remark that even in England precautions are taken in such cases. At Sheffield a few days ago there was a serious strike. The trade-unionists attempted to prevent the non-union men from working. The English police did not remain inactive, and the military were prepared to support them in case of need, and so the freedom of labour was protected. What we did is precisely what every Government should do in every civilised country. Let the working class be thoroughly convinced of this—the Government does not harbour the slightest intention of interfering against it in questions concerning the freedom of labour; but the Government is firmly resolved not to permit in any place, nor under any circumstances whatever, that a bold, active, fiery majority should try and intimidate an honest and industrious minority, which requires to be protected against threats and violence. (Loud applause.)

In the debate of Thursday, on the Treaties of Commerce, M. Thiers made another Protectionist speech, in the course of which he alleged that the treaties of commerce were held in abhorrence by a large majority of the country. This statement elicited loud exclamations of "Oh! oh!" M. Thiers admitted that the commerce of France with England had greatly increased, but said the French shipping trade was thereby ruined. He maintained that the French cotton trade was also ruined, owing to the impossibility of competing with this country. In the course of an elaborate speech, M. de Forcade la Roquette (the late Minister) expressed his belief that, if the decrees issued on the 10th inst., suppressing temporary admission, were adhered to, it would be necessary to diminish the import duties on foreign iron, on the ground that the cheapness of iron was essential to the progress of agriculture, of which the present great development depended to a large extent upon the use of machinery. In conclusion, he expressed his conviction that the special inquiry would define the interests of all.

The protracted debate, on the interpellation of M. Brame, condemnatory of the Anglo-French com-

mercantile treaty, was brought to a close on Friday night. M. Emile Ollivier, in winding up the debate, made a thoroughly Parliamentary speech. The Government, he said, desired to act in accordance with the will of the majority, believing the will of the majority to be the will of the people. It would accept the proposal for a Parliamentary inquiry, and in order that there might be no doubt as to the honesty of the inquiry, the Government had withheld its opinion, and desired that the investigation should be made without its having pronounced upon the questions at issue. It would, he added, be imprudent to give notice of withdrawal from the treaties, and might cause disturbance in trade and ruin to French merchants; and he subsequently explained that the adoption of the order of the day, pure and simple, would be held to signify that the Chamber did not desire that notice should be given of withdrawing from the treaties. Thereupon the Chamber passed the order of the day pure and simple, by 211 votes against thirty-two. On Saturday the Chamber decided that the committee should consist of thirty-six members, to be appointed by ballot, but it refused to name any day for the conclusion of the labours of the committee, and postponed its decision as to the publicity of its proceedings.

In Monday's sitting of the Legislative Body, M. Dupuy de Lorne blamed the Ministerial decrees of the 9th of January respecting the temporary admission of iron and cotton, and demanded their suspension until the result of the investigation into the working of the Commercial Treaties was made known. M. Buffet, the Minister of Finance, defended the decrees, and repelled the accusation of desiring to encroach upon the rights of the House. The decrees, he said, could not have the effect of imperilling the principle of temporary admissions, but were only intended to suppress abuse and fraud. The Minister explained that by the system of Custom House permits illicit profits were made by certain large manufacturers, and proceeded: "If you blame the suppression of this fraud, then blame me, for it is I who have suppressed them." The Minister announced the intention of the Government to propose the abrogation of clause 7 of the law of 1836, and to introduce shortly another bill to regulate the temporary admissions for the future. In conclusion the Minister said:—"The Government inclines to the opinion that all contracts bearing an earlier date than the decrees referred to should be allowed to hold good." The speech of M. Buffet was well received and frequently applauded by the House. After some remarks of M. Genton and M. Jules Favre, the debate closed, and the House passed to the simple order of the day by 191 against 6 votes.

If the *Toulonnais* is to be believed, the French Minister of Marine contemplates the reduction this year of the effective of the navy, and the suppression of such naval stations as are not of absolute necessity. It is also stated that the naval division in the Chinese seas will be forthwith reduced, and that with this view the *Minerve*, just returned from China, will not be replaced.

A circular has been addressed to the Procureurs-Général by M. Ollivier, which concludes thus:—"You will allow the expression of all shades of opinion, and leave to the good sense of the people the preservation of public order; but you will prosecute all outrages against the Emperor, and also all instigations to crimes or misdemeanour. You will not allow any newspaper to be hawked in the streets, nor any meetings to be held of a nature to disturb the public peace." Some ten or twelve of these officials are about to be placed on the retired list.

M. Emile Ollivier has addressed a circular to the juges de paix directing them not to offer themselves as candidates for election to any councils; it being desirable to keep the ermine spotless, and free from all electioneering contests.

It is asserted that M. Rochefort will not offer any opposition to the sentence lately passed upon him.

A report on the abrogation of the law of general safety has been presented to the Emperor, and approved by his Majesty.

It is rumoured that the political oath is to be abolished.

Advices from Creuzot state that nothing of any importance has occurred there, and the works are being carried on as actively as before. The good sense of the people is reacting against the leaders of the late strike.

#### AUSTRIA.

In the Lower House of the Reichsrath on Wednesday the Minister of the Interior, Herr Giskra, made a speech explaining the views of the Government. He prefaced his remarks by stating that the present provisional position of the Ministry laid upon him the necessity of a certain reserve, but in their characters as Deputies the members of the Cabinet wished it to be understood that they completely agreed with the Address as brought forward by the majority. He then detailed how the present Ministers had done everything in their power to satisfy the wish for national independence, and he appealed to the House to judge of their policy by its results; by what they had made Austria during their two years' administration. The Ministers did not ignore the fact that the Constitution was susceptible of improvement, but they were resolved never to parley with those who stood outside the lines of the Constitution. In conclusion, Herr Giskra declared that the present was not a party Government, and that its members had always kept in view the defence of the general interests of the Monarchy. During the debate which followed upon the separate paragraphs of the draught Address, Count Beust stated that, in consequence of the moderate views expressed by the Minister of the Interior, he should unreservedly support the draught

of the majority, and would avoid every occasion of controversy.

On Friday the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, as drawn up to express the views of the majority, was adopted by 114 votes against 47. It will be presented to the Emperor by the Ministers.

Next day the German deputies from Tyrol handed in a declaration, in which they announced that they resigned their seats in the House because of the incompatibility of the Constitution with the State rights of Tyrol. The Italian-speaking members of that province, on the other hand, made known their intention of retaining their seats and of firmly adhering to the Constitution.

#### SPAIN.

The Spanish elections thus far have resulted in the return of four Unionists, five Democrats, ten Progressistas, six Republicans, and one Carlist. A heavy fall of snow has impeded the polling in the country districts. The result of the elections in the north is as follows:—519,000 votes polled by the Monarchist party, 149,000 by the Republicans, and 89,000 by the Carlists.

There is talk of annulling the recent elections in the Asturias, on account of the interference of the civil authorities in opposition to the Duke of Montpensier. The Duke's supporters in Oviedo appear to have been very roughly handled both by the Carlists and Republicans. The cause of Queen Isabella, or rather, we may presume, of her son, is to be advocated by "an influential journal," the first number of which was to appear yesterday.

The Cortes have adopted the Estimates of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The Republican Deputy Figueras asked if the Government intended to punish the colonel who commanded the body of troops which assassinated the Deputy Gaillen during the late insurrection. General Prim protested against the word assassinated, but Senor Figueras adhered to it, saying that the tribunals of the country should be the proper authorities for calling to account the colonel who was responsible for the murder.

#### AMERICA.

A ball in honour of Prince Arthur was given on Wednesday night at the Masonic Temple at Washington. It was, the telegraph informs us, a very brilliant affair, and was attended by President Grant and the Cabinet, the majority of the Diplomatic Body, and a large number of members of Congress and officers of the army and navy. His Royal Highness is expected to arrive at Ottawa on the 14th of February, to be present at the opening of the Canadian Parliament. A series of festivities will be given in honour of his visit.

The attacks with which one or two widely-circulated New York newspapers assailed Prince Arthur on his first arrival are now dying out. The *Tribune*, referring to these attacks, rebukes the spirit that prompted them, and says: "The Prince has behaved while here in a manner entirely becoming and modest." The article concludes thus: "Prince Arthur, in coming here, is to be regarded simply as a young gentleman on his travels, and is to be treated with courtesy and respect so long as he does nothing to show that he does not deserve them. If flunkeyism be out of place on the one hand, so are all meanness, vulgarity, and impertinence on the other. Every newspaper should understand this, as it is evidently understood by the body of the American people."

One Senator and three Representatives from Virginia took their seats in Congress on Thursday.

The remains of Mr. Peabody were transferred from the Monarch and delivered to the Governor of Maine on Saturday. Speeches appropriate to the occasion were delivered by Captain Commerell and the Governor, and the funeral car, guarded by British Marines, proceeded to the City-hall, where the body lies in state.

The Canadian Government are determined to repress any attempt on the part of the Red River insurgents to bring about annexation to the United States. At the same time they do not appear determined to stand by Governor M'Dougall. The correspondents of the Toronto papers were arrested on their arrival at Fort Garry and put in prison. An awful storm swept over the Red River Territory on the 16th ult., when the thermometer fell thirty-five degrees below zero. Seven men were frozen to death.

The Canadian papers comment upon the intelligence of a proposed working men's meeting, to be held in London under the presidency of Earl Grey. The *Toronto Globe* (an Opposition journal) says on the subject:—"Whether or not the meeting be productive of immediate results, it will at least show that the sense of the great body of the English nation is utterly opposed to a policy that would tend to sever the connection between the mother country and her important, powerful, and rapidly growing auxiliaries." The *Montreal Gazette* says that the Canadian Government expresses satisfaction at the better tone prevailing in England with regard to the colonial question.

#### JAPAN.

The New York newspapers contain interesting news from Japan. The Mikado, fearing a combination of the southern princes under Satsuma, has made his peace with the old governing religious family, of which Stotabashi, the late Tycoon, is the head. Stotabashi has been pardoned, and it is expected that he will be again restored to power, if not as Tycoon to such an extent as to shape the policy of

the Government, and to bring its affairs out of the present confused and unsatisfactory condition. The late Tycoon, who is a most enlightened prince, did much while in supreme power to extend commercial intercourse with Europe and the United States.

#### FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The cold has been more severe in Portugal than has been experienced for thirty years.

A telegram from Rome announces the death in that city on Friday night of the ex-Grand Duke of Tuscany.

MM. Victorien Sardou and Alexandre Dumas *filis* are candidates, it appears, for two of the four vacant fauteuils at the French Academy.

General Garibaldi will visit England, if his health permits, in the middle of March, accompanied by Father Gavazzi, for the purpose of having an interview with Signor Massini.

THE DUKE DE BROGLIE, an eminent statesman of the old régime, died last week at Paris. His funeral was private, the pallbearers being MM. Daru, Guizot, Thiers, and General Changarnier.

A mutiny among the French astronomers is announced by the *Patrie*, fourteen of them having sent in their resignation to the Minister of Public Instruction, on account of long-standing disputes with the head of the establishment.

The American papers say that a strange complication has arisen in the State of Alabama. The Supreme Court of that State has decided that marriages solemnised during the war are null and void. The reasons given are that the probate judges were not judges in the legal sense.

PAPAL BIGOTRY AT MUNICH.—Kaulbach lately exhibited at Munich a picture representing the horrors of the Inquisition. He has been forced to discontinue the exhibition, in consequence of numerous anonymous letters declaring that the work would be damaged if not immediately withdrawn.

SINGULAR COMMUTATION OF PUNISHMENT.—An American paper states that the Governor of Ohio has pardoned a young man who was sent to the State prison for manslaughter, on condition that he drinks no liquor during the time for which he was sentenced.

HEALTH OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.—We are in a position to state that there is absolutely no truth in the report that the Emperor has experienced a return of his rheumatic seizure. Dr. Ricord has not been required to attend at the Tuilleries for the last fortnight.—*Lancet*.

BREZOWSKI, THE POLE who attempted to assassinate the Czar on his visit to Paris, and whose sentence was at the Czar's request commuted to penal servitude for life, escaped the other day from the French penal settlement in New Caledonia. After three or four days he was recaptured in a state of complete exhaustion. He had not tasted food for fifty-two hours, and under the pressure of his sufferings, although he has been kindly treated, his mind gave way, so that he is now almost idiotic.

A SOCIAL SCANDAL has agitated New York. The Rev. Horace Cooke, a Methodist preacher, having exercised a fascination over a young lady of his congregation through religious zeal, eloped, abandoning his wife and two children. He brought her to Philadelphia, and, leaving her at an hotel, went back to New York, where he endeavoured to thrash one of the editors of the *New York World*. The young lady found her way back home, and the erring preacher is writing disjointed letters to the newspapers, to prove himself insane.—*Letter from America*.

HAYTI.—Advices from Port-au-Prince, to the 5th instant, state that after the defeat of Salnave, his place was blown up by the Revolutionists, and half the town destroyed. The correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* telegraphs:—"The details of the execution of Salnave in Hayti have been received, showing that it was brought about through an alliance with the anti-annexation party in St. Domingo. This is expected to delay any effort to ratify President Grant's treaty for the annexation of St. Domingo to the United States." Nissage Saget had been appointed President by the Cacos.

CIVIL MARRIAGE.—The *National-Zeitung* reports from Carlsruhe that an ordinance condemnatory of civil marriage has been issued by the archiepiscopal vicariate. Looking at such a union from a canonical point of view, this document pronounces it to be debasing, and maintains that only after the nuptial ceremony has been duly performed in a church can the parties be regarded as being truly man and wife. The administration of the Eucharist, and the other consolations of religion, not even excepting Christian burial, are to be refused to all such as have contracted a civil marriage.

A PARISIAN LADY MURDERED BY HER FOOTMAN.—A shocking murder is reported from Paris—a lady having been killed by her footman, with whom she had an altercation. The man, who was drunk, went to the dining-room, took a carving knife, and returning to his mistress, cut her throat with it, the head being nearly severed from the body. Before being arrested, he inflicted a severe wound upon a female servant in the house who attempted to disarm him. A terrible incident in connection with this tragedy is that the husband of the murdered lady saw her killed before his eyes, but, being paralytic, was unable to render her any aid.

THE ANNEXATION OF SAN DOMINGO.—The treaty for the purchase and annexation of San Domingo is before the Senate, but that body evidently intends to act leisurely upon it. Some people doubt whether the requisite two-thirds vote for ratification can be obtained, but the Administration is powerful, and is using every effort to force it through. In San Domingo the intelligence of the treaty has caused excitement, and President Baez is soon to issue a pro-

clamation ordering the election required by the treaty to be taken, to show if a popular majority favours annexation. The cities are said to be strongly in its favour, but the country districts to be against it, although the whole vote, it is thought, will probably show an annexation majority.—*Letter from America.*

**ENGLISH MAYORS AT BRUSSELS.**—On Monday there was a descent on Brussels by 145 English mayors and their wives, the former having been entrusted with the honour of presenting to the King of Belgium a congratulatory address. They were received at Brussels by the Burgomaster and an immense crowd, which cheered lustily. The Burgomaster made a speech of welcome, and Colonel Gourley replied.

**THE GREAT EASTERN,** about which there has lately been a good deal of speculation and some little anxiety, has arrived safely at her destination, having reached Bombay on the 29th ult. The Chiltern, which had previously arrived at that port, reports that everything proceeded satisfactorily during the voyage of the Great Eastern to the Cape, and that the insulation of the cable had steadily improved. A week is expected to be occupied in coaling; afterwards the Great Eastern and the Chiltern will proceed with the work of submerging the cable to Aden and the entrance of the Red Sea, an operation which is expected to be accomplished by the end of February. At some time in March direct submarine communication between India and Malta will, there is reason to hope, be completed. Not later than May the telegraph will be at work, unless some mischance interposes, between Falmouth and Bombay.

**THE AUTHUIL TRAGEDY.**—The correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes:—"The Juge d'Instruction, who has been engaged in examining witnesses and getting up the case in the Bonaparte affair, gives it as his opinion that it will be impossible to find a verdict against the Prince. The fact that M. de Fonvielle, on rushing into the street, exclaimed that that 'devil Noir' had struck the Prince, has been already reported, but not the haphazard manner in which that important bit of evidence was obtained. The Commissary of Police who first arrived on the premises, after a superficial investigation, and when he had sent off a despatch to Prefect Pietri, bethought him that he had not breakfasted, and went into a café in the vicinity of Prince Bonaparte's house. Whilst waiting, two gentlemen at another table began to discuss the crime, and having declared that they had heard M. de Fonvielle make use of the expression attributed to him, were asked by the commissary to give evidence, and to this request they naturally consented."

**EARL RUSSELL AND THE POPE.**—The Roman correspondent of a contemporary writes:—"One of our latest arrivals is Mr. Arthur Russell, one of your legislators, and brother of our universally popular unofficial representative at the Vatican. He will have to leave us again at the end of a week to make his appearance in Parliament. He left Earl Russell at San Remo, inhabiting a house in one of the rooms of which there are—and were before his lordship took it—four portraits—Cavour, Garibaldi, Mazzini, and its present occupant. The reports of his lordship's health are good, but he still hesitates to come on to Rome, though he has half promised to do so. When Lord Amberley was presented to the Pope, a short time ago, his Holiness expressed a great desire to see his old foe, and the son promised for the father that the latter would certainly not visit the Eternal City without presenting himself at the Vatican. Earl Russell naturally shrinks from the journey at this uncertain period of the year. Still, he may come." The Earl and Countess Russell and Viscount and Viscountess Amberley intend to remain in Italy till after the Easter recess, and will make a short stay in Paris on their way home.

### Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty has sufficiently recovered from her recent indisposition to be able to go out as usual.

In consequence of her late indisposition, the Queen will not open Parliament in person next Tuesday.

The Prince and Princess of Wales remain at Gunton Hall, and are not expected to take their departure for town before the close of this week.

The British nation's address to the King of the Belgians was submitted to the Queen's inspection on Thursday. Her Majesty examined the casket and the address very minutely, and expressed her approval of the design and of the manner in which it had been executed.

A Cabinet Council was held yesterday, and there will be further meetings to-day and on Friday.

Mr. Gladstone has issued cards of invitation for a full-dress Parliamentary dinner, on Monday next, at his residence on Carlton-house-terrace. Earl Granville, as leader of the Ministerial party in the House of Lords, will give a full-dress Parliamentary banquet, on Monday next, at his residence in Bruton-street.

Lord Cairns and Mr. Disraeli have issued to the leading members of the Opposition invitations to the usual Parliamentary dinners on the evening of the 7th, which precedes the opening of the session.

The Address will be moved in the House of Lords by the Marquis of Huntly and seconded by the Earl of Fingall.

Mr. Baxter, M.P., the First Secretary to the Lords of the Admiralty, paid an official visit of inspection to Portsmouth Dockyard on Friday, and returned to London in the afternoon.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* states that the negotiations in reference to the settlement of the Alabama claims are at present at a standstill.

The *John Bull* professes to have some news for the Yeomanry. It is that the Government propose to suppress every regiment having not less than four troops; that the force is to be converted into mounted rifles; and that the period of training is to be extended from seven days to thirty days.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* believes that shortly after the assembly of Parliament attention will be called by a Conservative member in the House of Commons to the military and naval reductions contemplated by the present Government.

The death of Sir Charles Darling, in his 61st year, is announced. The name of the deceased will be long remembered in connection with the legislative deadlock in the colony of Victoria four years ago. Sir Charles held successively the Governorships of St. Lucia, the Cape of Good Hope, Newfoundland, Jamaica, and Victoria.

The *Nation* says that upon the assembling of Parliament, it is understood that Mr. G. H. Moore will move that the "Member for Tipperary" be allowed to take his seat, and will strongly advocate his admission.

The Duke of Newcastle's bankruptcy is to be brought under the notice of the Law Lords on a question of privilege.

A State Commission is to commence sitting on Wednesday next to inquire into the condition, management, and necessity for the continuance of the establishment of Chelsea Hospital.

### Crimes and Casualties.

Two boys were drowned at Shrewsbury on Thursday, while sliding on the ice. There was some skating and several immersions at Birmingham on Sunday. At Blackburn on the same day three young women were drowned by the breaking of the ice. There have also been two deaths at Wellington from the same cause.

Eighteen of the persons who took part in the illegal auctions held at the instance of the "Countess of Derwentwater," have been committed for trial at Hexham.

On Sunday morning, Mr. R. Y. Powley, tailor and draper, Newborough-street, one of the oldest and most respectable tradesmen of Scarborough, fell down dead in his pew in the parish church. He died of apoplexy of the heart.

An infuriated cow attacked a school of about thirty children who were walking in procession to church on Sunday morning at Sparkbrook, near Birmingham. Many little girls were tossed, knocked down, and trodden upon by the animal, and the teachers also received severe injuries.

The opening of a new Catholic chapel at Lewes last week, was marked by some disgraceful scenes. A mob of upwards of a thousand Protestants waited for the coming out of the congregation, whom they assailed with yells and stones. The Roman Catholic Canon Drinkwater was obliged to take refuge in a neighbouring house, and a Captain Wyndham had to flee for his life, pursued by the mob. Several other Catholics and Protestants, who had attended the service, were seriously hurt by stones.

Fifty men, charged with being concerned in the riot at Thorncroft on the 21st inst., were brought up on Friday, before the Barnsley magistrates. There was great excitement in the town, and a large extra force of police, and a detachment of the 22nd Regiment were placed inside the police-office to guard against any attempt to rescue the prisoners. A number of the men in custody were identified as having taken part in the riot, and were remanded to the Wakefield House of Correction for a week. The prisoners were conducted to the railway-station by a strong body of police and the soldiers. The latter, on going to the station to return home, were stoned, and they turned round and prepared to charge the mob, but no actual collision took place. It has been decided that the soldiers shall be kept near to the Thorncroft Collieries. Considerable excitement still prevails in the neighbourhood.

A sad tale of the distress which exists at the east end of London was told at the Thames Police-court on Thursday. An appeal was made on behalf of a local relief society, and one of the speakers stated that his house was besieged from morning to night with famishing people clamouring for bread. The sitting magistrate promised to lay the application before his colleague.

### ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

**SOUTHWARK.**—The three candidates for this borough have held many meetings during the week. On Monday evening Mr. Odger addressed a large meeting at Rotherhithe. Letters were read from several members of Parliament and other gentlemen apologising for non-attendance, and the receipt of the following among other subscriptions was announced:—Sir C. Dilke, M.P., 30*l.*; Sir Henry Hoare, M.P., 30*l.*; Mr. J. S. Mill, 25*l.*; Mr. C. Buxton, M.P., 10*l.*; Mr. Simon, M.P., 3*l.* 3*s.*; and Mr. McCullagh Torrens, M.P., 2*l.* 2*s.* Mr. Odger, in his speech, expressed himself as confident of success. Mr. Fawcett, M.P., afterwards addressed the meeting. He said he had known Mr. Odger for about ten years; he valued him as a friend, admired him as a man, and respected him as a politician. Mr. Odger, the hon. gentleman added, rendered great service to the Committee on the Master and Workmen's Acts by the clear and succinct

manner in which he gave his evidence before that committee, many members of which felt that if Mr. Odger had been a member of the House and of that committee it would have been very beneficial to all parties. There were plenty of manufacturers and merchants in the House of Commons, but no practical working man. This was an anomaly which he (Mr. Fawcett) for one desired to see come to an end. He considered that the future legislation of our country would be incomplete without the presence in the Legislature of several working men. A resolution in support of Mr. Odger's candidature was carried by acclamation. Sir Sydney Waterlow also held a meeting on Monday night, at the Hop and Malt Exchange, in Southwark-street. He said he would support a bill for the protection of the funds of trade unions; and would not vote for a measure to disestablish and disendow the English Church, because he thought that was a question which would settle itself. Colonel Beresford continues an active canvasser. It is understood that the polling will take place on the 15th or 16th inst.

**NORWICH.**—The requisition to Sir R. J. H. Harvey, inviting him to offer himself in the Liberal-Conservative interest, has been numerously and influentially signed. But it is considered extremely doubtful whether Sir R. Harvey will accede to the invitation.

**MALLOW.**—At the nomination on Monday the show of hands was largely in favour of Mr. Munster. There was great uproar. Mr. Munster and his friends obtained a partial hearing, but Major Knox was not listened to. Mr. Barnes was also nominated. A poll was demanded for Major Knox, and will take place on Wednesday. There are but 201 electors on the register.

**LONGFORD.**—A petition has been filed against Mr. Greville Nugent's return for Longford, on the grounds of informality in the sheriff's notice of the election, bribery, treating, priestly intimidation, and mob violence.

**WATERFORD.**—Sir Henry Barron has been unseated for Waterford on the ground of bribery, and condemned to pay the expenses. Mr. Bernal Osborne is disqualified, and the seat is declared vacant.

**THE BEVERLEY ELECTION INQUIRY.**—The Beverley Election Commissioners, in the course of their inquiry, refused a ticket of indemnity to a witness named Burrell, whose answers they did not consider satisfactory. Sir John Karslake, quoting the Bridgewater decision, moved in the Court of Queen's Bench on Saturday for a rule for the issue of a mandamus compelling the Commissioners to grant a certificate. The Court, however, held that the Commissioners had properly exercised their discretion, and refused the rule.

**THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.**—The *Times* Commissioner has closed his series of letters on the Irish land question. His plan for the solution of the difficulty may be briefly described. He advises that courts should be established in every county, which should call up all tenants-at-will, hear all landlords, ascertain the just rights of the tenant from custom or otherwise, and then award him a formal lease equivalent to those rights. Such leases would very often be of very long duration. Then he would give compensation for improvements, and abolish the presumption of law which makes the improvements the landlords'. Then he would have a new valuation of Ireland to guide the courts as to "fair rent," and finally, he would accept Mr. Bright's scheme, let the State buy estates and sell them to the farmers by instalments.

**GIVING WINE TO CHILDREN.**—An ingenious surgeon tried the following experiment:—He gave to two of his children, for a week alternately, after dinner, to the one a full glass of sherry, and to the other a large China orange. The effects that followed were sufficient to prove the injurious tendency of vinous liquors. In the one the pulse was quickened, the heat increased, the secretions morbidly altered, diminished in flow of bile, while the other had every appearance that indicated high health. The same effects followed when the experiment was reversed. —*Derby Reporter.*

**CURE FOR SNAKE-BITES.**—Two instances are recorded in the Australian papers of the successful treatment of snake-bites by the injection of ammonia as recommended by Professor Halford. In the first case, which occurred at McCallum's Creek, an hour and a half elapsed before the application of the remedy, but by perseverance and attention the patient was restored to consciousness in about fourteen hours, and in thirty-six his recovery was complete. The second case was that of a woman at Tarraville, who was not treated until thirteen or fourteen hours after the bite had been given. All ordinary means of cure had failed, and the woman appeared to be sinking—her pulse was very weak, the surface of her body was cold and clammy, and she was kept awake with great difficulty. A vein in her right arm was then opened, and seven drops of strong liquid ammonia, diluted by a drachm and a half of lukewarm water, were injected by means of a small glass syringe, brandy being also administered. Still the symptoms gradually increased, and the breathing became so low and quick as to be scarcely perceptible. Ammonia was therefore again injected, and in about twenty minutes symptoms of recovery began to appear. After a while the general state of the circulation became more active, the unfavourable symptoms disappeared, and in four hours it was considered safe to let the patient go to sleep. When she awoke she had quite recovered. It might be worth while to try the effect of this remedy in cases of hydrophobia.

## Literature.

## MRS. STOWE AND THE "QUARTERLY REVIEW."\*

We hope that we have, for the present at least, got to the end of the unhappy Byron controversy. Of course there will still be a number of people anxious to have their say, but, unless other evidence is forthcoming, the case is complete. Mrs. Stowe has spoken in her own defence, and the *Quarterly Review*, which appears to have constituted itself the special champion of Lord Byron, has, with a haste that indicates at least the intensity of its feeling, criticised her arguments, and we are in a condition to pronounce judgment, if not on the truth of Lady Byron's accusation, at all events, on Mrs. Stowe's action in the matter. It is this with which we are principally concerned. Lord and Lady Byron both have their zealous partisans, but poor Mrs. Stowe finds but few, for even those who are prepared to accept the "True Story" are, for the most part, loud in their condemnation of her for giving it to the world. Not only has there been an utter want of chivalry in the treatment she has received, but she has not even found that justice on which, under any circumstances, she ought to have been able to calculate. So bitter is the feeling, that the journal which makes a special boast of its gentlemanly character, was not content even to wait for the defence itself before pronouncing judgment, but on the faith of a mere telegraphic summary, undertook to say "as to the production, as a whole, we have no hesitation at all, with our present knowledge, in condemning it as no vindication." This indecent haste which trampled upon the first principles of justice in the eager desire to prevent one on whom writers of all sorts and sizes had been pouring out their wrath for some months, from obtaining an unprejudiced hearing, finds a parallel in the fact that the *Quarterly* delayed its issue in order that it might, if possible, at once neutralise the effect which Mrs. Stowe's arguments might produce. One thing such writers have made clear. Whatever Mrs. Stowe might have advanced would not have affected their views. Her defence was condemned before it was made, and the great object was to create a prejudice in the mind of the English public, which should lead them at once to acquiesce in the verdict.

There must, however, be less of the love of fair play among us than we have always believed, if the violence of the attack on Mrs. Stowe does not produce some reaction in her favour. Whatever be the merits or demerits of Mrs. Stowe, the article of the *Quarterly* is simply a disgrace to its manhood. To show how thoroughly it has forgotten what was due to its own reputation, we should have to quote almost the entire article; but it is necessary to cull a few specimens of the choice language it has seen fit to employ in relation to a high-minded woman, a distinguished member of the literary class, whose only fault (but that apparently an inextinguishable one) is that she has told too much about the reckless despoiler of religion and virtue whom this organ of orthodoxy, religious and political, has chosen to set up as its idol. As to judicial impartiality, there is not an attempt to preserve it. So unmistakable an animus pervades the whole, that the writer evidently finds it hard to put himself under the restraint necessary to give his reasonings even a show of fairness.

Thus he is obliged to admit that Mrs. Stowe did not fabricate the story. Indeed, he tells us that Mrs. Jameson certainly told the story to a select number of friends, and blames Mrs. Stowe because her sense did not enable her to see that it was only "a racy bit of scandal with which all Lady Byron's gossips were regaled in their turn." Now this being so, although "it does not appear that she ever told it to any woman of her own rank in life," who, we suppose, were too shrewd to have been imposed upon by tales which passed muster with such weak intellects as Mrs. Jameson and Mrs. Stowe, what, we ask, is the bearing of the following sentence:—"The numerous and almost unaccountable inaccuracies of detail detected in the first version of the 'True Story,' were alone sufficient to justify distrust apart from its inherent improbability." There is a good deal of art in the way in which both Mrs. Stowe and Lady Byron are here discredited, and each made to bear the sins of the other. The legitimate effect of such a statement would be to

create a doubt whether or not Lady Byron ever made a statement which, in addition to its "inherent improbability," was disfigured by inaccuracies of detail. As a mere reporter, Mrs. Stowe has no more responsibility for the improbabilities than Lady Byron has for the inaccuracies; but they are jumbled up in a way which speaks more for the ingenuity than the candour of the writer, to create an impression unfavourable to both, and, if possible, to create a suspicion as to Mrs. Stowe's truthfulness. If it had been possible to rescue an English aristocrat, even though it was Lady Byron, at the expense of an American authoress who, as being of the middle-class, is evidently considered to have shown great presumption in meddling with the affairs of those dwelling in regions so much above her low sphere, it would have been done, but as this was too much even for the boldness of the reviewer, he is obliged to content himself with throwing out insinuations. Thus he tells us that she belongs to the tribe whose "intellectual vision is so clouded when their predilections and prejudices are aroused, that they see everything through a distorted medium." Her impressions, we are told, are subjective, not objective, and it is precisely when she is most interested or excited that the smallest reliance is to be placed upon them. In other words, Mrs. Stowe's utterances are the reflections of her own impressions rather than an account of facts; a statement which, if it could be proved, would influence us in the amount of credence we were to repose in her, but which actually has no relevance to the present controversy. For despite the mystification which such endeavours to discredit Mrs. Stowe's word necessarily create, the veracity of that lady is in reality unquestioned. So far from there being any doubt that Lady Byron did actually make the statement attributed to her, one of the charges brought against Mrs. Stowe by some of Lord Byron's defenders is, that she has put forth as new a solution of the sad domestic misery which had already been freely canvassed in certain circles, and she has been sneered at for supposing that she was her ladyship's confidante, whereas all the time she had only received statements which had again and again been made to others. These innuendoes therefore against her truthfulness may at once be safely dismissed as ebullitions of a petty spite, whose intensity may be judged from the fact, that a comparison is instituted between her and the infamous Titus Oates. Mrs. Stowe may have formed too high an estimate of Lady Byron; she may or may not have exercised a sound judgment in giving to the world a story which she was not able to corroborate by independent evidence; she may possibly have been betrayed into slight inaccuracies of detail in her recital; but the attempt to throw a stain upon her honour can only recoil on those by whom it is made.

As to her motives, the case is equally clear. A lady in her position would not have perilled her reputation on any trifling grounds, and even if the chivalry of her friendship has carried her too far, that is certainly not the kind of fault which should have exposed her to the brutal kind of attack which she has had to encounter. Not content with talking of her as "a discomfited libeller," an English gentleman does not think it inconsistent with his character to write of her in the following terms:—"She carries it all off with an air of nonchalance, and when twitted (not by us) with an eye to dollars, she flings down her ill-gotten gains in a way that provoked a parallel with Judas Iscariot, and a charitable hope—Transatlantic journalists do not stop at trifles—that she would complete the parallel. Gaining money by the circulation of an exploded calumny to forward a philanthropic object, is to imitate the elderly gentlewoman mentioned by Fielding, who stole Tillotson's Sermons for the sake of religion." The *Quarterly* is not in the habit of referring to American journalists with much deference or respect, but lest it should be thought that it considers them as having here transgressed the bounds of decency, the Reviewer thinks it necessary in a foot-note, wherein a still more atrocious extract from *Frank Leslie's Journal* is inserted, to say that "strong language apart, the journalists of the United States deserve the highest credit for the impartiality and critical ability with which they have discussed the question." A noble Christian woman, an intense hater of injustice and wrong, has dared to speak on behalf of one of her own sex, whom she regarded as the victim of calumny and prejudice engaged in support of a man whose genius has been accepted as a sufficient excuse for a life of shameless and abandoned vice, and this is the treatment she receives.

It does not speak much for her assailants, but

it cannot have taken her wholly by surprise, and the fact that she resolved to face it is one of the best proofs of her sincerity. She had no personal object to gain, and the absurd insinuations of her calumniators that a woman of her literary reputation was influenced by the mere pecuniary payment, is the proof that even they feel that her conduct is not to be explained in any such way. She felt she had a duty to discharge, and she resolved to discharge it at all costs. Possibly the cost has been even greater than she anticipated, for she could hardly have expected that a *Quarterly* Reviewer, one who can taunt her with the want of aristocratic reserve, and tell her that—

"Her manners had not that repose,  
Which suits the house of Vere de Vere."

would make a personal complaint of "the pruriency of her imagination," and that after she had first been charged with beating about the bush, she should afterwards be assailed because of a more distinct statement in such very elegant and gentlemanly terms as the following:—"We admit that the luscious tit-bit—the trail of the woodcock is new to us." Perhaps she may think that if this be a specimen of the manners that "suit the house of Vere de Vere," she is not the loser by her want of them; but we are sure that even the dread of the fierce abuse of the *Quarterly* would not have deterred her from taking the course she felt to be right. There is a simplicity and truthfulness in her statement, which ought to have made an impression even on those who think she is mistaken. "The question, whether I did right, when Lady Byron was thus held up as an abandoned criminal by the *Blackwood*, to interpose my knowledge of the real truth in her defence, is a serious one; but it is one for which I must account to God alone, and in which, without any contempt of the opinions of my fellow-creatures, I must say that it is a small thing to be judged of man's judgment." To those who talk as though Mrs. Stowe were responsible for all the miserable controversy, forgetting that hers was not at all a gratuitous and wanton attempt to drag this miserable scandal into the public light, we commend the following brief but pregnant statement: "And now I have one word to say to those in England, who, with all the facts and documents in their hands which could at once have cleared Lady Byron's fame, allowed the barbarous assault of the *Blackwood* to go over the civilised world without a reply. I speak to those who, knowing that I am speaking the truth, stand silent; to those who have now the ability to produce the facts and documents by which this cause might be instantly settled, and who do not produce them."

We have no intention to go into a new examination of the "True Story." Mrs. Stowe has no new evidence, but she puts the issue fairly enough when she tells us that either Lord or Lady Byron must be convicted, for if he be innocent of the crime imputed to him, she cannot be acquitted, for the "hallucination" theory will not hold water. The strongest evidence that has yet been produced to discredit Lady Byron's statement is the series of letters from her to Mrs. Leigh. We do not profess to explain them, but if they constitute a difficulty, those on the other side are much greater. The *Quarterly* Reviewer, in order to strengthen his case, publishes another letter in the present number, from Lady Byron to Mrs. Villiers, but the impression it produces on our minds is the very opposite of that which she wishes it to convey. It is to us the letter of one who is trying to fence an unwelcome inquiry, which she is equally unwilling to answer, or to leave unanswered; and which she, therefore, manages cleverly to evade. It is not an ingenuous document, but the more carefully we study it the more do we feel that it is impossible to reconcile it with the reviewer's idea. If, at the time it was written, Lady Byron believed in the "True Story" as told by Mrs. Stowe, we understand the caution that is apparent throughout, on any other supposition it is unintelligible. There is only one other point on which we have a word to say. When the *Quarterly* talks about the reputation of an illustrious poet being damaged, and impiously tells us that Mrs. Stowe has been "the blind (not humble) instrument under Providence of fulfilling Lord Byron's prophecy—that the time would come when full justice would be done him"—and this in a journal which prides itself on its opposition to all kinds of heresy—we confess ourselves lost in utter amazement. Is the writer so deluded as to suppose that his lordship had any reputation to lose? The reputation of the man who wrote and who lived "Don Juan" is certainly something to defend. To tell us that Providence has taken it under its special protection is to venture on a blasphemy passing anything

\* Lady Byron Vindicated. A History of the Byron Controversy. By HARRIET BEECHER STOWE. The *Quarterly Review*, January, 1870. (London: Sampson, Low, Son, and Marston.)

of which the wildest of those Rationalists, which the *Quarterly* is so fond of assailing, has ever been guilty.

#### NEW EDITIONS.

The issue of improved and cheaper editions of works of standard merit is an occasion for congratulation alike to the author, the publisher, and the public. With the rapid multiplication of second-class works, the difficulty of selection increases, and it must be a positive relief to the uninitiated to fall back upon those books which have received the *imprimatur* of a generation. One or two such, in various departments of literature, are now before us. Foremost among them is *Conybeare and Howson's Life and Epistles of St. Paul* (Longman and Co.), in one volume of 850 pages, printed by Spottiswoode, in clear type, on good though thin paper, and durably bound. This edition, the price of which we do not learn, is evidently prepared for popular use. The copious and scholarly notes which accompanied former editions are given here, and the volume is further enriched by maps and numerous illustrations. We sincerely hope that in its present form it may circulate widely amongst those who have as yet only heard of its excellence.

Belonging to the same class is Isaac Williams's *Devotional Commentary on the Gospel Narrative* (Rivingtons). Vols. IV. and V. of a "New and Uniform Edition" of eight volumes, price 5s. each, embracing respectively the second and third year of our Lord's ministry. This work, first published in 1848-49, is probably known to few of our readers. Mr. Williams is a High Churchman, and his commentary is in many points repugnant to reason and spiritual feeling. To give a single instance of a tendency which mars a singularly useful book, we may note (Vol. IV. p. 320) the mystical sense attached to "the staff" which, according to Mark alone, the apostles should carry on their missionary journey, viz., as a "rod" of authority. The author constantly quotes with approval the fanciful interpretations and comments of the later fathers. But the book is far too good to be condemned on this account. Those "who have their senses exercised" to discern good and evil, will rejoice greatly in its possession, if only for the care with which the chronological account of our Lord's life is collated from the four Evangelists, and by this means made to yield coincidences and suggestive hints otherwise quite unperceived. Instances of this might be given in abundance. We would strongly recommend the purchase of a single volume, from which the good and bad traits of the work would readily be seen.

Messrs. A. and C. Black have, we presume, found a ready sale for the illustrated edition of Scott's novels, and are thereby encouraged to produce *The Centenary Edition*, at 8s. 6d. a volume. The recommendation which this edition borrows from the fact that it has been carefully collated with the interleaved copy containing the author's latest corrections, is a somewhat feeble one, but in truth it needs no such recommendation. Its merits are at once evident: excellent type, not too small nor too close, a clean stout paper, and thick cloth binding, will probably secure for this latest edition a wider sale than other publishers can obtain for rival editions. We presume, too, that Messrs. Black are more likely than competitors to recognise the interest of the family, by whomsoever it may now be represented, and in so far to be morally entitled to a preference.

From Mr. W. P. Nimmo we have received, since our last notice of the series, Vols. X., XI., and XII. of Hugh Miller's works. They are—*Tales and Sketches; Essays Historical, Biographical, &c.*, and *Edinburgh and its Neighbourhood*. Few better presents could be made to a mechanics' institute or workman's library than this twelve-volume edition of the writings of a man who was a prince of his order.

We must not forget to include among our notice of New Editions of Standard Works Dr. Smiles's *History of the Huguenots* (Third Edition), which was published just before Christmas as a companion volume to the popular editions of "Self-Help," "Lives of the Engineers," &c. As a contribution to English history it is most valuable, and, like all previous writings by the same author, it is of absorbing interest to intelligent readers.

#### MAGAZINES OF SCIENCE.

*The Quarterly Journal of Science*. January, 1870. (London: Robert Hardwicke.) The first article in this magazine is one on "Light and Sound," by Mr. W. F. Barrett. Mr. Barrett, though a young man, is a not undistinguished physicist; he has investigated and recorded some curious phenomena, indicating sympathy between colours and musical notes, as illustrated in the "sensitive flames." This paper is a more general description of the analogies between light and sound. It is thoroughly readable, but neither shallow nor loose in expression. Mr. Barrett knows how to combine scientific accuracy with a popular style; we shall be glad to meet him again in the pages of this or similar journals. Mr. Crookes's paper on "The Total Solar Eclipse of August last," does not, as its title might lead readers to expect, deal with any theories of solar physics; it is simply a description of the provision made by American scientific observers to observe and record the pheno-

mena of the eclipse, by means of cameras, telescopes, and spectroscopes, and a description of what some of them saw. It gives interesting information both of the phenomena of the eclipse, and of the zeal, the enthusiasm, and the patience with which so many distinguished students devoted themselves to fulfilling, each his own task, in the common observation. The varied knowledge recently acquired concerning the sun's constitution, must, we should think, soon point out the true theory of it, and it is impossible to overestimate either the service of such observers as these, or the moral qualities developed in the cultivation of physical science. We observe that the "Chronicles of Science" record Mr. Meehan's examination into the leaves of conifers, which we have seen noticed elsewhere. The true leaves of conifers are not the shoots ordinarily called their leaves, but bud-scales more or less adherent to these; what are commonly considered the leaves of the pine, for instance, the cryptomeria, or the larch, are, in reality, "arrested phytoid shoots." The following is worthy of quotation:—"Dr. Poselger deserves the thanks of the public for his determining, by positive experiments, that the 'death of fine trees growing along the streets and promenades of many, especially continental, towns, is not due, as has been too often asserted, to the effects of leakage in gas-mains. From the author's experiments made with trees and shrubs, it is a settled point that no damage can accrue to the trees, nor their growth be interfered with, by any quantity of gas which may escape in the soil and find its way to their roots." All the articles in this number are worthy of their place.

*The Popular Science Review*. January, 1870. (London: Longmans, Green, and Co.) Half-a-dozen good papers, together with reviews and the usual Scientific Summary, compose the present number of the *Popular Science Review*. Mr. J. Carpenter describes, somewhat at length, the course of experiments by which the "Heat of the Moon" has been estimated. The results appear to be that the moon has no cosmical heat or heat of her own—that it is all reflected heat, and that the "available lunar heat at the earth's surface" can only be expressed by a number "in the fourth or fifth decimal subdivision of a degree centigrade." Dr. Richardson communicates the first of some popular papers, "Under Chloroform," dealing generally with "chemical substances which possess the property of inducing sleep and insensibility." A concluding paper on "Wine" is written by Dr. Dupré. The Rev. Thomas Hincks describes some interesting observations by Nitsche and Smitt, verified also by himself, of the modes of reproduction of the *Polysoa*. We noticed, in our last review of this magazine, Dr. Oyle's paper on the "Fertilization of Salvia," &c. It is followed here by one on the "Fertilization of Several *Didymia*," carefully and ably described. We have been specially interested in Professor Ansted's article on "The Deposits of the Atlantic in Deep Water, and their Relation to the White Chalk of the Cretaceous Period." That chalk strata are now being deposited in the bed of the Atlantic, may be regarded as an established fact. The *Foraminifera* whose skeletons, composed of carbonate of lime, make up the chalk beds are, however, only found where there is a warm, or comparatively warm, sea bottom. "It is also certain that a warm sea bottom is a local condition nearly independent of latitude—absent in some seas whose surface water is very warm, and present in others where the surface and moderate depths are very cold." It is due to warm sea-currents, and only in warm sea-currents are the *foraminifera* found. "Over the cold areas generally the bottom is sandy, often of volcanic sand, and those parts exhibit a considerable variety, and sometimes a great wealth of animal life; but the organic forms but a small proportion to the inorganic element." If by following out the course of the ancient chalk strata, the comparative temperature of the old sea-bottom and the course of former warm and cold currents can be indicated, much will be accomplished towards the reconstruction of the physical geography of the cretaceous series.

*Nature*. January. (London: Macmillan and Co.) This well-conducted journal has done more than preserve the position won for it by its earliest numbers; it has established itself as a necessity to scientific readers. Week by week it brings together the latest accounts of papers read before learned societies at home and abroad, and contained in special journals. A vast amount of information is thus brought within small compass, and students are directed to the best sources for what they need. One feature of the reviewing department is worthy of notice: not only are we furnished with quotations from the books reviewed, specimens of the pictorial illustrations are also given. Thus, in the notice of Mr. Dunkin's "Evening Sky," we have three woodcuts—"Northern Heavens as seen from London, January 15," "Key-Map," and "Meteoritic Showers as seen off Cape Florida." Pictorial illustrations are given whenever these form a leading feature of the book under notice, or when they are needed to elucidate the letter-press. The number for January 6 contains a paper by Dr. Houghton on the "Labouring Force of the Human Heart." At every stroke of the heart, work is done equivalent to raising three ounces of blood through nearly ten feet. This work is repeated seventy-five times per minute, and there are 1,440 minutes in a

day. The total daily work of the heart is over 124 tons lifted through one foot. The amount of work done by a labouring man in his day of ten hours is found to be equal to the raising of 354 tons one foot. "This amount of work is less than three times the work done by a single heart, beating day and night for twenty-four hours: thus, three old women, sitting beside the fire, alternately spinning and sleeping, do more work, by the constant beating of their hearts, than can be done (voluntarily) in a day by the youngest and strongest navy." The labour of the "muscles employed during a boat-race is only three-fourths of that exerted day and night during life by each of our hearts." The labour of an active pedestrian in climbing Monte Rosa in nine hours, that is, in lifting his own body 1,000 feet per hour, is only one-twentieth part of the energy of the heart, which does a work per hour equivalent to lifting itself 19,754 feet. The last number (January 27) contains Professor Tyndall's lecture on "Haze and Dust" *in extenso*, and a brief but careful criticism on it. A valuable communication also appears from Mr. Grove, the author of the phrase, "Correlation of Physical Forces." Mr. Grove explains that he uses the logical term correlation strictly to express "relations of necessity," and "inseparable in idea." Thus heat and electricity are correlative, for the one force is never manifested without a corresponding manifestation of the other; but colour and music are not correlative, for the one may be conceived, as it exists, without the other. There is an "analogy" between them, but no correlation. This is true criticism, and we hope students of science will listen to Mr. Grove. The whole value of the term "correlation of forces" will be lost, if its precise significance is not adhered to.

*Hardwicke's Science Gossip*. January. (London: Robert Hardwicke.) Two of the best papers in this number of *Science Gossip* are reprints; one, entitled "An Era in Microscopy," from *Scientific Opinion*; the other on "The Parasites of the Honey-Bee," from the *American Naturalist*. The latter paper will be useful to bee-keepers, and interesting to naturalists. An original paper on "Recent Foraminifera," is good and well illustrated, of peculiar value to young microscopists. The department of "Gossip" specially—what would in other journals be called "Scientific Notes"—in this magazine, is always pleasant to read, and often contains valuable information.

#### MUSIC.

Last Wednesday was a "Mendelssohn night" with the National Choral Society. The choir had somewhat looked up, as to numbers, since the last concert, and on the whole, was tolerably efficient; though a little more strength, particularly in the tenors, would have been an advantage. In the first of the works performed, Mr. Martin was hardly so fortunate in his principal vocalists. Miss Arabella Smyth, though a vocalist of much promise and considerable powers, hardly seems to have attained the lofty standard of expression required by the especially devotional music of the "Lobgesang." The duet, "I waited for the Lord," in which Miss Smyth was correctly, though somewhat feebly seconded by Miss Simcoester, was nevertheless warmly received, as indeed, from the intrinsic beauty of the music, it could hardly fail to be. Mr. Mason, though a well-trained cathedral tenor, hardly possesses powers adequate to the requirements of Mendelssohn's highly dramatic setting of the passage, "Watchman, will the night soon pass?" but he was more successful in the duet with Miss Smyth, "My song shall be always thy mercy." The famous symphony was played with much *verve* and precision by the excellent band, but the effect of the lovely *adagio religioso* was somewhat marred by its being taken too hurriedly. After the *Lobgesang*, came a motet for sopranos and contraltos, "Laude pueri," composed by Mendelssohn (oddly enough) for the nuns of the convent of Trinita di Monti, at Rome. This was a novelty at Exeter Hall, and was well received. The contralto part in the trio was ably sustained by Miss Lucy Franklein, and the choral portions were effectively given by the ladies of the choir. The "First Walpurgis Night," which concluded the performance, has become almost equally with the "Lobgesang," one of Mr. Martin's stock pieces. The exacting music allotted to the Druid priest was effectively sung by Mr. Renwick, and the solitary contralto solo, "Dare ye thus," by Miss Lucy Franklein. The choruses, particularly the graceful, "Now comes sweet May," and the weird "Come with torches," were (allowing for an occasional want of precision in attacking the points) very creditably given.

At the fourth of the Saturday evening concerts at Exeter Hall, Mozart's fourth symphony, nightly sur-named "The Jupiter," was played to perfection, as were also the overtures to "Semiramide" and "Zanetta," by the excellent band under Mr. Henry Lealie's direction. Signorina Vittorina de Bono, a young lady violinist, played two solos with unequivocal success, and Mr. F. H. Cowen, who is rapidly making his way, both as a composer and pianist, gave Mendels-

sohn's "Rondo Capriccioso," and two smaller productions of his own. When we have added that two songs were sung by Miss Helen D'Alton, three by Mr. Sims Reeves, and three by Signor Foli, all in their very best style, we shall have sufficiently indicated the character of the entertainment. We are glad to observe that these admirable concerts are to be continued.

### Miscellaneous.

**TESTIMONIAL TO THE LATE MR. B. B. WOODWARD.**—As a testimony to the memory and services of the late Mr. B. B. Woodward, B.A., her Majesty's librarian at Windsor Castle, whose sudden death has left his family very inadequately provided for, it is proposed by his friends to raise a sum of money, by subscription, for the benefit of his widow and children. Nearly 600*l.* has been already subscribed, the Prince of Wales contributing fifty guineas. Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant a pension of 80*l.* per annum to Mrs. Woodward.

**DRUNKENNESS AT LIVERPOOL.**—A great meeting on the subject of drunkenness at Liverpool was held on Friday evening in St. George's Hall, the Mayor (Mr. Hubback) in the chair. A resolution was passed expressing regret that the bill devised by the magistrates and town council in 1868 was not adopted, and the Government was called upon to introduce an equally restrictive measure. There was a strong feeling in favour of closing public-houses altogether on the Sunday, and a resolution favourable to that course was carried with acclamation.

**THE FARMERS AND THE GAME LAWS.**—Mr. Wykeham Martin will introduce a bill next session for the amendment of the game laws. He proposes to vest right to rabbits absolutely in the tenant, but hares, pheasants, and partridges, are deemed too sacred to be touched. The hon. gentleman explained his views at a conference of landowners and farmers held at Coventry yesterday. His scheme was not deemed wide enough, and a resolution was passed declaring that hares as well as rabbits should be declared the absolute property of the occupier, "all agreements to the contrary to be null and void."

**THE WILL OF MR. THOMAS OLNEY,** of Balham-hill, and High-street, Borough, linendraper, was proved in London, under 20,000*l.* personalty, by his four sons, the joint acting executors. The testator was the senior deacon at Mr. Spurgeon's Metropolitan Tabernacle. He bequeaths to the Metropolitan Tabernacle College 200*l.*, and a like sum to the building fund of the said college; also the sum of 100*l.* to be paid to the poor members of the Tabernacle. He leaves to the Baptist Home Missionary Society, 100*l.*; the Baptist Home Missionary Society, 50*l.*; and a like sum to the Baptist Irish Society.

**THE CAMBRIDGE WRANGLERS.**—The list of wranglers has been published. The senior wrangler is Mr. Pendlebury, of St. John's. He is the son of a Liverpool merchant. Mr. Greenhill, of St. John's, is second, and Mr. Levett, of St. John's, third. Mr. Greenhill is the son of an engineer at Kensington; Mr. Levett is a Hull man. Of the next five on the list, three are Scotchmen. Mr. Pendlebury's private tutor is Mr. Routh, himself a senior wrangler, who has brought out eleven in the same position—nine of them in succession. St. John's College has produced the first three and one of the fifth of the wranglers.

**THE WEATHER.**—The hard frost of the past week has given great animation to the parks. On Saturday and Sunday upwards of 60,000 persons went on the ice in the various London parks, and there were several immersions, some attended with severe injuries. On Sunday night a thaw set in. Notwithstanding the rain on Monday morning a large number of persons went to the parks in anticipation of being allowed to go on what remained of the ice, and in many cases succeeded. The full staff of icemen of the Royal Humane Society were on duty in all the parks, but their chief employment was to keep people off the ice. In St. James's Park about 100 persons managed to evade the icemen during the day, and six of them fell in.

**CHEAP RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION FOR THE PEOPLE.**—On Thursday afternoon, a deputation from the Metropolitan Association for Procuring Cheap and Regular Railway Accommodation for the Working Classes, waited upon the President of the Board of Trade, with the view of asking Government interference to secure the object of the association. Mr. Bright assured the deputation of his readiness to assist them to the full extent of his power in the attainment of their object, which, at the same time, he remarked, was possible without legislation, if workmen would, as he thought they very fairly might, concede the point as regarded compensation, the amount being limited, say 100*l.* In the coming session, there would be an inquiry into the subject of the excessive damages given against railway companies by English juries. The deputation then withdrew.

**THE LATE PANIC AT LIVERPOOL.**—The inquest upon the bodies of the persons killed in the panic at the Roman Catholic chapel at Liverpool on Sunday night was concluded on Friday. It was clearly established that the confusion first arose through a drunken man named Nevin interrupting the preacher, and that afterwards some one—a boy, one witness said—cried out "Fire!" and the congregation rose screaming and in great excitement. The preacher, the Rev. Alphonsus O'Neill, at once asked the

people to engage in audible prayer on their knees, stating that there was no cause for alarm, and in this way he quieted the great majority, but a considerable number rushed to the door. The crush lasted five or ten minutes. The medical evidence showed that in the case of most of the persons killed, suffocation was the direct cause of death. The jury found that the deceased persons died from suffocation and injuries caused in the rush, the result of a panic brought about by the brawling of Nevin and a cry of "Fire!" They recommended that the doorway of the chapel should be widened.

**BRADFORD MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.**—On Thursday the foundation-stone of the new Mechanics' Institution, on the Old Bowling Green site, was laid. The stone was laid by Lord Houghton, in the presence of a large concourse of townspeople, and his lordship delivered an excellent address on the occasion. Subsequently there was luncheon at the Victoria Hotel, after which addresses on education and other subjects were delivered by Lord Houghton, Mr. Miall, M.P., Mr. Illingworth, M.P., Mr. Ripley, Mr. Godwin, and other friends. The new building will cost about 25,500*l.*, and towards this subscriptions have been promised to the amount of 8,000*l.*, and there is to be added the sum that will be obtained for the old building. The interest of the money it is proposed to borrow is expected to be paid by the rentals of the shops which will occupy the ground floor of the new building.

**A FREE BREAKFAST TABLE.**—A singular scheme was introduced on Monday to the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce by Mr. John Patterson, the late President of the Chamber. That gentleman proposed a series of resolutions, having for their object the realisation of Mr. Bright's free breakfast table. Taking the expenditure for the year at sixty-eight millions, he suggests that on the army and navy estimates a saving should be effected respectively of 2,230,000*l.* and 997,000*l.*, and by other economies he would reduce the expenditure to 64,366,000*l.* To carry out Mr. Patterson's proposals the revenue would be reduced to a total of 52,300,000*l.*, to which he would add a beer duty in lieu of duty on malt, producing ten millions, and an additional house duty producing another million. From increased revenue from other sources, following the remissions, an increase of 2,180,000*l.* might be predicted, making the net income 65,480,000*l.* The meeting was adjourned for a week, to allow the members an opportunity of considering Mr. Patterson's scheme.

**ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL.**—A general court of the governors of this charity was held on Friday morning at the London Tavern, Mr. John Remington Mills in the chair. Mr. Soul, the secretary, read the 112th report, which stated that during the last year the amount received as legacies, with one exception, was the largest that had been paid in one year since the foundation of the school. The health of the children had been generally good, but two children had died of phthisis and disease of the brain. On the 1st of January there were 364 boys and girls in the school, and this number was further increased by twenty-five, who were elected yesterday. The educational report of the examiners (Dr. Smith, Dr. Brook, and Mr. J. C. Curtis) was satisfactory, and showed that much progress had been made. The reading and writing of the pupils were good, and they evinced considerable knowledge of Scripture history. The new tax on charities had increased the expenditure of this institution by the sum of 218*l.* 15*s.* The legacies had amounted to 3,863*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.* The report was adopted, and, after the various officials had been re-elected, the election of twenty-five children to the benefits of the school was proceeded with.

**IMPORTANT TRADES UNION CASE.**—On Saturday, in the Court of Criminal Appeal, the case of "The Queen v. Stainer" was argued before the judges of the superior courts. The prisoner was tried at the Worcester Quarter Sessions, and was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for embezzling the moneys of the Power Loom Carpet Weavers' Mutual Defence and Provident Association of Kidderminster and Stourport. The counsel for the prisoner now argued that the prisoner could not be legally convicted of embezzlement, because the society was proved to have been established, in part at least, for an illegal object, and that therefore the prisoner ought to be acquitted. It was contended that, looking to the rules and the practices proved before the convicting magistrate—viz., the supporting men on strike and imposing conditions on members so as to fetter their freedom of action, it was clear that they were in "restraint of trade" and "against public policy"; and that being so, they were similar to the notorious cases of "Hornby v. Close" and "Farrar v. Close," which had been decided by the Court of Queen's Bench to be illegal. After a long argument, the Court decided that there was nothing criminal in the rules to prevent a society like the present from taking proceedings against an officer who has embezzled their money. Conviction affirmed accordingly.

### Cleanings.

Mr. Ernest Longfellow, a son of the poet, has adopted the profession of portrait-painting in Boston.

A uniform edition of the poems and imaginative tales of Dr. George MacDonald will appear shortly.

An effort to suppress dancing-saloons is being made in Liverpool.

A San Francisco paper says George Peabody never owned a horse, a buggy, or a wife.

Mr. Tennyson's "Holy Grail" is on sale in America at the price of ten cents.

Walton-on-Thames, Farnham, and Boston, decline to be included in the telegraphic system which came into operation on Saturday.

"Father, I was reading to-day about illuminated manuscripts; what were they lighted with?" "With the light of other days, my son."

At a festival in Chicago, to the St. Andrew's Society, when the toast, "The Bench and the Bar," was announced, the band struck up "The Rogue's March."

At Bradford the builders have established schools for the technical instruction of young men engaged in their trades. The charge is 3*s.* per quarter. The schools are open four nights in the week from seven to nine.

At a coloured meeting in New York, a few nights ago, a worthy brother, whose piety exceeds his learning, rather astonished his hearers by quoting, during an exhortation, from "de 'pistle ob St. Paul to the Canadians."

That was a triumphant appeal of an Irishman who was a lover of antiquity, who, in arguing the superiority of old architecture over the new, said, "Where will you find any modern building that has lasted so long as the ancient?"

The other evening two citizens of Dundee were overheard conversing in the street regarding the Ecumenical Council. "Well, John," said one, "what d'ye think o' this Ecumenical Council in Rome?"—"Rome! did ye say?" the other replied; "I wish to goodness we only had an Ecumenical Council in Dundee!"

**COINCIDENCES.**—The *Literary Churchman* says the enthronement of Bishop Temple at Exeter added another to the list of curious coincidences. The Second Lesson for the day was Acts xxvi. The ceremony of "enthronisation" was concluded just before the Second Lesson was to begin. The Dean began with the words, "And Agrippa said unto Paul, Thou art permitted to speak for thyself." It is added that the effect on Bishop Temple himself was electric.

**STORY OF A BOX OF TOYS.**—A pretty little story comes from Berlin. In the Industrial Exhibition in Wittenburgh there was a box of soldiers, which excited the envy of every little boy who saw it. This ultimately came into the possession of the Queen of Prussia. One little fellow, however, about eight years of age, had quite lost his heart to the gaudily-painted soldiers, and he began to wonder whether he could not even yet secure them. The Queen's grandchildren, he argued, could not possibly stand in need of an addition to their stores of toys, and who could say but the good Queen might let him have the treasure if he were to ask for it? Naturally his parents did not take quite the same view of the matter, but he was not to be daunted by this. He went off secretly to his room, and wrote a letter to her Majesty, in which he expressed the desire of his heart, beginning, "My dear lady Queen," and writing on the outside, "To the Queen of Prussia in Berlin." In due time the letter reached its destination, and her Majesty was so pleased with the simplicity of her youthful correspondent that she at once caused the envied box to be packed up and sent to his address, accompanying it with an expression of her hearty good wishes. The letter is kept by the Queen as a curiosity.

**NOTICE.**—On and after the 5th January, all announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage stamps.

### Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

#### BIRTH

CHAWLEY.—January 24, at Prittlewell, Essex, the wife Mr. Thomas Crawley, of a daughter.

#### BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Jan. 26.

#### ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ....	233,403,110	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	5,384,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	18,403,110
	233,403,110		233,403,110

#### BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity)	£14,311,300
Reserve .....	8,341,000	Other Securities ..	18,567,171
Public Deposits ..	8,346,939	Notes .....	10,403,930
Other Deposits ....	17,369,595	Gold & Silver Coin	875,018
Seven Day and other Bills .....	418,934		
	£44,059,468		£44,059,468

Jan. 27, 1870.

Geo. Forbes, Chief Cashier.

**HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.**—SAFETY AMIDST DANGER.—Surrounded on all sides by the causes of disease, man must keep up a constant watch if he would preserve or recover his health. These purifying pills present the most certain and effectual means of removing all obnoxious matters from the blood at the same time that they regulate any disordered action which their presence has induced. The harmless strengthening balsams, of which Holloway's Pills are composed, render them peculiarly well adapted for the young and delicate, who can with impunity bear only tender treatment. In the nursery this mild aperient and universal purifier should always be at hand; in raising families, attention to Holloway's directions, and their early application, will prevent much future evil.

## Markets.

## CORN EXCHANGE, London, Monday, Jan. 31.

We had only a small supply of English wheat for to-day's market, and only moderate arrivals have come to hand from abroad. English wheat met a slow sale, and we quote 1s. per qr. decline since Monday last. In foreign wheat little business was done, and sales proceeded slowly at 1s. per qr. lower. Flour was dull, and without change in value. Peas and beans were unaltered in price. Barley met a slow demand at former prices. Indian corn is sold slowly at former rates. Oats were 6d. per qr. lower since Monday last. At the ports of call only a moderate number of cargoes remain unsold, and they are held at last week's quotations.

## CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	PEAS—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent,	s. d.	s. d.	Grey .. .. .	32 to 33	
red, old .. ..	46 to 48		Maple .. .. .	38 39	
Ditto new .. ..	38 44		White .. .. .	34 37	
White, old .. ..	47 51		Boilers .. .. .	34 37	
new .. .. .	40 43		Foreign, boilers ..	35 36	
Foreign red .. ..	40 41		RYE .. .. .	31 32	
white .. .. .	43 44				
BARLEY—			OATS—		
English malting ..	27 31		English feed .. ..	18 19	
Chevalier .. .. .	34 40		potato .. .. .	23 24	
Distilling .. ..	31 34		Scotch feed .. ..	— —	
Foreign .. .. .	30 31		potato .. .. .	— —	
MALT—			Irish black .. ..	16 17	
Pale .. .. .	— —		white .. .. .	16 18	
Chevalier .. .. .	— —		Foreign feed .. ..	16 18	
Brown .. .. .	48 54				
BEANS—			FLOUR—		
Ticks .. .. .	33 35		Town made .. ..	37 43	
Harrow .. .. .	36 38		Country Marks ..	33 34	
Small .. .. .	— —		Norfolk & Suffolk	23 29	
Egyptian .. .. .	33 35				

BREAD. — LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 29.—The price of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7d. to 7½d.; household ditto, 5½d. to 6½d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Jan. 31.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 7,195 head. In the corresponding week in 1869 we received 5,477; in 1868, 1,930; in 1867, 6,205; and in 1866, 7,059 head. Since we last wrote the cattle trade has continued dull, and the tendency of prices has been downwards. An average supply of animals came to hand. From our own grazing districts the show of beasts was fully up to the average. There was a poor attendance of milkers, and no disposition was shown to purchase freely. Trade ruled far from active, at a decline of 2d. per 8lbs. The top price for best Scots and crosses was not above 5s. 2d. per 8lbs. Inferior, but good serviceable, animals sold on easier terms—5s. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received about 1,750 Scots and crosses; from other parts of England, 350 of various breeds; from Scotland, 170 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 870 oxen. There was about an average number of sheep in the pens. For all breeds the inquiry was dull, at late quotations. The best Downs and half-breeds changed hands at 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8lbs. The calf trade was dull and inactive; at drooping prices. Pigs were dull and easier in value.

## Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

Inf. coarse beasts.	s. d.	s. d.	Prime Southdown	s. d.	s. d.
2 to 3 10	4 0	4 6	Lamba .. .. .	0 0	0 0
Second quality	4 0	4 6	Lge. coarse calves	4 2	5 0
Prime large oxen	4 8	4 10	Prime small .. .	5 4	6 0
Prime 8 to 10, &c.	5 0	5 2	Large hogs .. .	4 6	5 4
Coarse inf. sheep	4 4	4 0	Neat sm. porkers	5 6	5 10
Second quality	4 2	4 4			
Pr. coarse woolled	5 2	5 4			

Quarter-old store pigs, 20s. to 25s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Jan. 31.—The market has been fairly supplied with meat. With a slow demand, prices have ruled as under. The imports into London last week consisted of 594 packages 44 carcasses 13 qrs. from Hamburg, 5 bags from Harlingen, and 3 packages from Rotterdam.

## Per 8lbs. by the carcass.

Interior beef ..	s. d.	s. d.	Inf. mutton ..	s. d.	s. d.
3 0 to 3 4	3 8	4 0	Middling ditto	3 10	4 4
Middling ditto	3 8	4 0	Prime ditto .. .	4 6	4 10
Prime large do.	4 0	4 4	Small .. .. .	5 0	5 8
Do. small do.	4 6	4 8	Small pork .. .	4 10	5 8
Large pork .. .	3 8	4 8			

PROVISIONS, Monday, January 31.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 709 firkins butter, and 2,386 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 21,051 packages butter, and 820 bales bacon. In the Irish butter market there was but a moderate business done last week, but the cold weather caused more inquiry, prices being cheaper than foreign. Foreign met a good sale, the finest qualities advanced about 4s.; best Dutch 136s. to 138s. The bacon market ruled steady, and more business transacted at the late decline; the market closed firm.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, January 31.—The cold during the past week has somewhat interfered with the supplies of home-grown produce, but has not caused any material advance in prices. Forced vegetables are ample for all requirements. Continental cargoes have arrived in excellent condition. The supply of oranges is not so heavy. Asparagus, artichokes, new potatoes, and the usual assortment of salad, reach us three times a week.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, January 31.—Our market is quiet for every description of hops, and the transactions of the week have been exceedingly limited; but the short supply of new hops tend to keep prices firm. Yearlings are difficult of sale, even at low quotations. Continental markets are reported quiet, and currency nominal. New York letters to the 15th inst. report the market as very dull, and holders firm. Mid and East Kent, 7l. 0s., 9l. 15s., to 13l. 0s.; Wealds, 6l. 0s., 7l. 5s., to 8l. 0s.; Sussex, 6l. 12s., 6l. 10s., to 7l. 0s.; Bavarians, 6l. 10s., 8l. 5s., to 10l. 10s.; French, 5l. 5s., 6l. 0s., to 7l. 0s.; Americans, 5l. 5s., 6l. 0s., to 6l. 10s.; Yearlings, 2l. 0s., 2l. 16s., to 4l. 4s. The import of foreign hops into London last week consisted of 123 bales from Antwerp, 30 Bremen, 20 Hamburg, 53 Ostend, 30 Rotterdam, and 881 bales New York.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, Jan. 31.—The supplies of potatoes are less extensive, and the trade is steady, at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 17,61 bags, 1,083 packages from Antwerp, 348 bags from Brussels, and 59 barrels, 69 bushels from New York. English Shaws, 70s. to 85s. per ton; English Regents, 100s. to 110s. per ton; English rocks, 60s. to 75s. per ton; Scotch Regents, 90s. to 105s. per ton.; French, 60s. to 65s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, Jan. 31.—English cloverseed comes out very slowly; fine qualities command very high prices. Foreign red cloverseed was in steady request, at quite as much money. Fine white cloverseed remains scarce, prices for such tending upwards. Choice English Trefoils were held higher, and fine foreign qualities were quite as dear. There was nothing passing in brown or white mustardseeds to alter their values. Canaryseed, both English and foreign, commanded quite as high rates.

WOOL, Monday, Jan. 31.—There has been a steady inquiry for English wool. Transactions in all descriptions have been neither numerous nor extensive, but prices have been supported for all qualities. Choice English lustrous are scarce and command very full rates. The next series of London Colonial wool sales will commence on February 12.

OIL, Monday, Jan. 31.—For linseed oil the demand has been less active, and prices have given way. Rape has continued firm, at an advance. Olive oil has been steady, but other oils have sold slowly.

TALLOW, Monday, Jan. 31.—The market has been steady. Y.C. on the spot, 46s. 3d. per cwt. Town tallow, 44s. net cash.

LONDON, Monday, January 31.—Market very heavy, at last day's rates. Harton, 16s. 9d.; Haswell, 19s.; Hartlepool (original) 19s. 6d.; Tunstall, 16s. 9d.; Holywell Main, 15s. 6d.; Harpley's, 15s. 3d. Ships fresh arrived 39; left from last day, 8. Ships at sea, 25.

## Advertisements.

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AND

EXCHANGE BUILDINGS, LIVERPOOL.

## MIDLAND RAILWAY.

## ALTERATION OF TRAINS.

FEBRUARY, 1870.

The New and Direct Line of Railway between CHESTER-FIELD and SHEFFIELD will be OPENED for Traffic, placing Sheffield upon the Main Line. The Through Trains between the North and South, and North and West of England will run direct to and from the new Midland Station, Sheffield, via the New Line.

A new and improved Service of Express and Fast Trains will be established between SHEFFIELD and LONDON, and the arrival and departure of Trains at Sheffield will be considerably altered and improved.

The Morning Fast Train leaving London for Derby and Nottingham at 6.15 a.m., will be continued through to Sheffield and Leeds, running Express from Trent, and arriving at Sheffield at 10.47 and Leeds at 11.55 a.m.

9.0 a.m. London (St. Pancras) to Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Leeds, and the North, will leave at 8.45 a.m. 10.0 a.m. Express from London will be accelerated to arrive at Sheffield at 1.53.

5.0 p.m. Express London to Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, and Manchester, will be continued through to Sheffield, Leeds, and Bradford.

5.30 p.m. Express, London to Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Leeds, and Bradford, will be discontinued North of Derby.

6.25 a.m. London to Wellingboro' will leave at 6.20 a.m. 7.45 a.m. St. Pancras to Leicester and Derby will leave at 7.30 a.m.

3.40 p.m. London to Leicester will leave at 3.20 p.m. 6.55 a.m. Express Manchester to London will be accelerated to arrive at St. Pancras at 11.55 a.m.

Slight alterations will be made in the running of several of the City Trains between London and Bedford.

For further particulars see Time Tables for February, issued by the Company.

JAMES ALLPORT, General Manager.

Derby.

## THE POLITICAL EVICTIONS IN WALES.

## LONDON COMMITTEE.

Formed for the purpose of eliciting an expression of sympathy with Tenant Farmers and others, who have been evicted on account of their Votes at the last Election, and of raising Funds for their Relief.

Samuel Morley, Esq., M.P.  
Charles Gilpin, Esq., M.P.  
William McArthur, Esq., M.P.  
Edward Miall, Esq., M.P.  
George Osborne Morgan, Esq., M.P.  
Henry Richard, Esq., M.P.  
Charles Reed, Esq., M.P.  
Watkin Williams, Esq., M.P.  
W. T. McCullagh Torrens, Esq., M.P.

William Edwards, Esq.  
Mr. Serjeant Parry.  
H. R. Ellington, Esq.  
Stephen Evans, Esq.  
David Jones, Esq.  
Robert Jones, Esq.  
Morgan Lloyd, Esq.  
John Williams, Esq.  
J. Carvell Williams, Esq.  
R. G. Williams, Esq.  
B. T. Williams, Esq.

The following contributions have been already promised in furtherance of this object:—

Samuel Morley, Esq., M.P.	£100 0 0	Morgan Lloyd, Esq.,	10 0 0
Messrs. Farnall and Co., London.	100 0 0	R. G. Williams, Esq.,	10 0 0
G. Osborne Morgan, Esq., M.P.	50 0 0	Temple .. .. .	10 0 0
Stephen Evans, Esq., London.	50 0 0	Robert Jones, Esq.,	10 0 0
Henry Richard, Esq., M.P.	25 0 0	St. John's Wood ..	10 0 0
William Edwards, Esq., London.	21 0 0	Stafford Allen, Esq.,	10 0 0
The Committee of Deputies of the Three Denominations .. .. .	21 0 0	London .. .. .	10 0 0
		A Welshman, London	5 0 0
		Watkin Williams, Esq., M.P.	5 0 0
		David Jones, Esq.,	5 0 0
		Mincing-lane .. .	5 0 0
		John Williams, Esq.,	5 0 0
		London .. .. .	5 0 0
		W. Hicks, Esq., Lis-	5 0 0
		keard .. .. .	5 0 0

The Committee earnestly commend to favourable consideration this APPEAL made in the interest of the oppressed, and of the FREEDOM OF ELECTION.

MORGAN LLOYD, Treasurer,

4, King's Bench-walk, Temple.

STEPHEN EVANS, Hon. Sec.,

14, Old Change, City.

## POLITICAL EVICTIONS IN WALES.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at the Hanover-square-rooms, on MONDAY EVENING, the 7th FEBRUARY, 1870.

The Chair will be taken by SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., M.P., at Seven o'clock.

The following gentlemen are expected to address the meeting:—

Henry Richard, Esq., M.P.; G. Osborne Morgan, Esq., M.P.; W. T. M. Torrens, Esq., M.P.; E. M. Richards, Esq., M.P.; Watkin Williams, Esq., M.P.; Edward Miall, Esq., M.P.; Mr. Serjeant Parry, Morgan Lloyd, Esq., and others.

## QUEENSLAND.

QUEENSLAND under the Land Act of 1868, and the Immigration Act of 1869. Land acquired on easy terms. Assisted and Free Passages. Information and particulars to be obtained on application.

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Removed from 2, Old Broad Street.

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Alexander M'Arthur, Esq. (Messrs. W. and A. M'Arthur).  
James Rae, Esq., Director, Eng., Scot., and Australian Chart.  
Bank.

Adolphus William Young, Esq., M.P.

BANKERS—Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co., 67, Lombard-street; the Union Bank of Scotland and Branches.

## THE OBJECTS OF THE COMPANY ARE:—

1. To make advances in the Colony of Victoria on FREEHOLD ESTATE ONLY.

2. To receive money on Debenture for the purpose of such advances.

3. To act as Agent for investing Capital, negotiating Loans, collecting Rents, Debts, &c., managing the Estates of Absentees, Trustees, and others, and generally conducting a TRUST and AGENCY business in connection with the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.

The COMPANY is now PREPARED TO ISSUE DEBENTURES for THREE YEARS or UPWARDS, at 5 PER CENT. INTEREST PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY in LONDON.

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J. HARPER, Secretary.

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A FREE POLICY given for the total Premiums paid after 5 years, if unable to continue payment.

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ACTIVE LOCAL AND DISTRICT AGENTS WANTED. For particulars, apply to JOHN G. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

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JONATHAN TAYLOR, Secretary.

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## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

## TUESDAY EVENING LECTURES.

The SECOND LECTURE of the Series will be delivered on FEBRUARY 8th, at 8.30, by Professor HENRY MORLEY. Subject—"The Allegory of the Faerie Queen."

The Subsequent Lectures will be as follows:—

THIRD LECTURE, MARCH 8th, by Sir EDWARD S. CREASY. Subject—"Poetry."

FOURTH LECTURE, APRIL 12th, by Professor G. C. FOSTER, F.R.S. Subject—"The Mutual Convertibility of Mechanical and Electrical Energy."

FIFTH LECTURE, MAY 10th, by E. J. POYNTER, Esq., A.R.A. Subject—"Realism and Beauty."

SIXTH LECTURE, JUNE 14th, by Professor C. CASSAL. Subject—"French Literature and Liberty." (This Lecture will be delivered in French.)

Tickets, which are transferable, and will admit either Ladies or Gentlemen, may be obtained at the Office of the College. Price for the course, 10s. 6d., for a single Lecture, 2s. 6d.

The proceeds will be paid over to the funds now being raised for erecting the South Wing of the College.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

## ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, Maitland

Park, Haverstock-hill, instituted May 10, 1758, for Children of Both Sexes, and from any part of the kingdom.

Under the patronage of her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of WALES.

At the 112th Annual General Court of Governors, held at the London Tavern, on Thursday, January 27, for the ELECTION of TWENTY-FIVE ORPHAN CHILDREN, out of a list of 160 Candidates.

JOHN REMINGTON MILLS, Esq., President, in the Chair. The following were declared to be successful:—

1. Barnes, Ann E. ....	571	14. Lea, Charles .....	461
2. Rawlingson, Fran. B.	521	15. Harmer, Wm. Alfred.	453
3. Gunstone, Priscilla M.	517	16. King, James .....	456
4. Anderson, Catherine	450	17. Moule, Wallman B. .	456
5. Scott, Fanny Eliz. .	410	18. Jordan, Thos. Geo. .	450
6. Hawkins, Ellen W. .	404	19. Lofill, John James .	449
7. Tricker, Mary Ann .	399	20. Stitt, Edwin George .	444
8. Scott, Wm. Walter .	351	21. Ford, Walter .....	440
9. Dell, Edward James .	574	22. Bellchambers, Sam. J.	433
10. Hingle, William ..	508	23. Chandler, Geo. Wm. .	432
11. Butler, Wm. Day ..	475	24. Newburn, John ....	429
12. Butler, Chas. Owen	474	25. M'Kenzie, Wm. G. .	411
13. Gill, Frank .....	470		

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and Scrutineers terminated the proceedings.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

78, Cheapside, E.C.

The Charity, which educates, maintains, and wholly provides for 400 Orphans, depends upon voluntary benevolence for four-fifths of its annual income. Contributions are earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received by the Secretary. To constitute a Governor for life, 10l. 10s. and upwards, annually 21s.; a Life Subscriber 5l. 5s., annually 10s. 6d. The next election will take place in July. Orphans for that election can be at once nominated.

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—Professor Pepper on A SHOCKING JAR.—The NEURO-CRYPT; or, Woman of Nerve: a beautifully-modelled Automaton.—CHRISTMAS and its CUSTOMS: Mr. Wardroper's Musical and Pictorial Entertainment. Illustrations.—Jovial Old Father Christmas—The Yule Log—The Squire's Seat—The Christmas Carols.—The Maximilian Relics—The MYSTERIES of UDOLPHO. The Ghost Illusion perfected. Three emanating from One. Ghosts innumerable!—The American Organ daily.—The ROYAL POLYTECHNIC'S change for One Shilling.

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The above branches of education are taught exclusively by the masters assigned to them. The general English education is under the immediate direction of the Principals and a competent staff of Governesses.

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This School comprises Upper, Preparatory, and Junior Departments, in which boys are carefully trained for Public Schools and Examinations, as well as for Commercial Life. Diligent and backward youths receive every care and attention.

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Opiates, Narcotics, and Squills, are too often invoked to give relief in Coughs, Colds, and all Pulmonary Diseases. Instead of such fallacious remedies, which yield momentary relief at the expense of enfeebling the digestive organs, and thus increasing that debility which lies at the root of the malady, modern science points to CROSBY'S BALSAMIC COUGH ELIXIR as the true remedy.

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Dr. Rooke, Scarborough, author of the "Anti-Lancet," says:—"I have repeatedly observed how very rapidly and invariably it subdued Cough, Pain, and Irritation of the Chest in cases of Pulmonary Consumption, and I can, with the greatest confidence, recommend it as a most valuable adjunct to an other-wise strengthening treatment for this disease."

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CAUTION.—Only sort warranted genuine by the Inventor, Baron Liebig, whose signature is on every genuine Jar.

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**LOEFLUND'S "LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MALT,"** a new dietetic preparation for all Pulmonary Complaints. Used at several Hospitals, and strongly recommended by the Faculty. Bottles 1*s*. 9*d*. each. All Chemists, Crosse and Blackwell, Barclay and Sons, Edwards, Sangar, and Van Abbott, Invalid and Infant Dietetic Depot and Wine Merchant, 5, Princes-street, Cavendish-square, W.

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Elegant, pale, and dry. 30*s*. per dozen. Carriage paid.

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The celebrated old IRISH WHISKY gained the Dublin Prize Medal. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome.

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EMBRICATION is recommended by many of the most eminent of the Faculty as the only known safe and perfect cure, without the use of medicine. Sold by most Chemists in bottles, at 4*s*. each. Wholesale Agent, Edwards, 33, Old Change (formerly of 67, St. Paul's), London.

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Extract of a Report of a Meeting on the 1st April, 1851.

Committee: Messrs. BERNARD, BOUVIER, GAULTIER DE CLAUDE, GUENEAU DE Mussy, LONGET, FORSENILLE.

Reporter: M. SOUBETRAU.

"The voltaic chains of Mr. Pulvermacher are really a most wonderful apparatus. It is astonishing to see these little piles, made of pieces of wire, arranged with perfect regularity, adapting themselves to the form of the body, and capable of producing under this small volume the most surprising effects."

"They unite henceforward two advantages, which no other apparatus has possessed until now: they are more portable and cheaper, two indispensable conditions in an apparatus of this description, in order to make the application of electricity, as yet so little known, more general, and to a certain degree popular, which is certainly very desirable in the interest of patients, as well as of the profession. In this respect the Chains of Mr. Pulvermacher will have a great future."

"The Commission begs to propose to the Academy to address their thanks to Mr. PULVERMACHER for his most interesting communication. Adopted."—Bulletin de l'Académie, Tome xvi., No. 13.

Sir C. LOCOCK, Bart., M.D., F.R.C.P., &c., &c.,

"LANCET," March 6th, 1858.

"I have seen water decomposed by the chains, even after the current has passed through the body." And in an auto-

graph testimonial, dated the 9th day of March, 1856, he says:

"Mr. Pulvermacher's recent improvements in his Voltaic Batteries and Galvanic Appliances for medical purposes are of great importance to scientific medicine, and he is entitled to the consideration and support of everyone disposed to further the advancement of real and useful progress."

From Dr. C. HANDFIELD JONES, F.R.C.P., F.R.S.

Physician to St. Mary's Hospital.

"49, Green-street, Park-lane, W., March 10th, 1856.

"I have seen some of Mr. Pulvermacher's inventions for the application of the continuous galvanic current to the human body in various morbid states, and I am very much disposed to think that his Apparatus may prove to be of great importance and value to medical practitioners, especially in its latest improved form. I am satisfied that he is an honest and earnest labourer in the field of the Science, and I think that he deserves to meet with every encouragement from the profession and from scientific men."

Dr. J. RUSSELL REYNOLDS, F.R.C.P., Physician to the University College Hospital, &c.

Extract from "LANCET," December 3, 1859, page 588.

"Remarkable cure of Paralysis of the Right Arm of W. F., aged fifty-seven, effected by the Pulvermacher Chain:—Stoppage of the violent agitation of the arm directly the Chain was administered, and the influence is maintained over the patient, enabling him in five minutes to execute voluntary

movements; restoration of temperature in the affected arm, and perfect cure of the patient, empowering him to write in a quick, legible hand. No medicine of any kind was given."

T. W. NUNN, Esq., Surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital, &c.,

Stratford-place, W., Nov., 1855.

"I have in the wards of the Middlesex Hospital demonstrated repeatedly the advantage of the galvanic stimulus in the treatment of obstinate sinuses and sluggish cutaneous ulcerations. Your invention is the most convenient one I am acquainted with for the purpose of applying the galvanic current, and I consider you are entitled to favourable testimony in respect of it.—I remain, sir, your obedient servant, THOMAS W. NUNN."

The "LANCET," No. 1, Vol. II., 1856.

"This ingenious apparatus of Mr. Pulvermacher has now stood the test for some years. The simplicity and efficacy are so easily determined, that it commends itself at once to every one who will take the trouble to make a single experiment with it. . . . It may be used by the medical attendant, or by the patient himself. Several ingenious additions have been made to the original chain, and the operator can now diffuse the galvanic influence over an extensive surface, or concentrate it on a single point. In these days of medicogalvanic quackery it is a relief to observe the very plain and straightforward manner in which Mr. Pulvermacher's apparatus is recommended to the profession."

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THE FOLLOWING TESTIMONY signed by the elite of the English medical faculty has been received:—

"We, the undersigned, have much pleasure in testifying that Mr. J. L. Pulvermacher's recent improvements in his Voltaic Batteries and Galvanic Appliances for Medical Purposes are of great importance to Scientific Medicine, and that he is entitled to the consideration and support of everyone disposed to further the advancement of real and useful progress."

Dated this 9th day of March, 1856.

"Sir CHARLES LOCOCK, Bart., M.D., F.R.C.P.

"Sir HENRY HOLLAND, Bart., M.D., F.R.S.

"Sir WM. FERGUSON, Bart., F.R.S.

"EDWD. H. SIEVEKING, M.D., F.R.C.P.

"Sir J. RALPH MARTIN, F.R.C.S."

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Lumbago	Cramp
Neuralgia	Sluggish Circulations
Head and Toothache	Urinary Disorders
Liver Complaints	Paralysis
Tic-Doloureux	Epilepsy
Indigestion	Nervous Debility
Deafness	Functional Disorders, &c., &c.

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### NERVOUSNESS AND GENERAL DEBILITY.

"Devonport, November 19, 1869.

"Sir,—I feel quite ashamed of not having written before to tell you of the extraordinary good your Galvanic Chain Bands have done me, in a most painful illness which I at one time fully thought would leave me an invalid for life. In May last, after I had been suffering for some months for a severe nervous disease, I was recommended very strongly by a friend to try your Galvanic Chains. When I received them my head was resting in a fixed position on my left shoulder, my right shoulder had grown out in a frightful manner, and I felt the greatest pain in my spine, shoulders, and head—in fact, in my whole body whenever I moved. I had not worn the Chain more than two days before I felt a decided improvement; my head from that time gradually regained its natural position and position, the pains ceased, and my right shoulder became once more the same as my left; so that before the beginning of July I considered myself quite well, and able to enjoy life once more. Occasionally I have felt a stiffness of the muscles of the neck and back, but the application of the chains has always proved efficacious. I need not say that I have everywhere spoken in the highest terms of the Pulvermacher Chain Band, and have recommended it to several people, who have all gained more or less good from it."

"I do not wish my name and address printed, but you are at liberty to give both privately to any one who feels a real interest in the case.—I am, Sir, yours gratefully."

"J. L. Pulvermacher, Esq., 200, Regent-street."

### PARALYSIS.

"Laura House, Lindfield, Sussex, Nov. 13th, 1869.

"Dear Sir,—I received two days since a Galvanic Chain Band for the little boy, Charles Harris, on whose behalf I addressed you. He is, as I mentioned, three years old, and was sent to me from India six months ago, with his right leg wholly paralysed. I put the Band on yesterday; he disliked very much having it on, but I sent him out, promising to take the chain off on his return. On his return, however, he said, 'I do not wish the chain taken off, it keeps me so nice and warm.' This morning when I went to attend his leg I found it quite warm instead of cold, as it always was before. I put on the chain again against his wishes, and sent him out; on his return I asked if I should take it off, and he said, 'No; it keeps my back so warm.' From so young a child I consider this a remarkable testimony as to the efficacy of the application, and I am looking forward to great results from its continued use.—Yours truly,

"J. L. Pulvermacher, Esq."

"I. C. ADAMSON.

RHEUMATISM.

"Braxholm Park, Hawick, N.B.,

"December 10, 1869.

"Sir,—Last year I got one of your Chains, which I wore something like six weeks. The Rheumatism quite left me, I am thankful to say. I put the Chain away. However, about the end of October last the enemy came back, a gentle twitch now and then, the Chain was put on and made me quite well again. For a couple of days past I have got a touch of lumbago, and no doubt the Chain will scare it away. Please send me one similar to the last.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

"WM. GRIEVE."

RHEUMATIC PAINS IN SHOULDERS.

"Wordley, near Stourbridge, January 6, 1870.

"Dear Sir,—A friend of mine, named John Davis, in this village, to whom I lent the pamphlet that you sent me, and recommended to buy the Chain Bands, tells me that he has obtained one from you, and thinks it will do a great deal of good, as it removed the pain he had between the shoulders in five minutes after he put it on, and it has not returned since.—Yours truly,

"JOHN BENNETT."

"J. L. Pulvermacher, Esq., 200, Regent-street, W."

NERVOUS DEBILITY.

"Newton Cunningham, County Donegal, Ireland,

"January 13, 1870.

"Dear Sir,—Your favour of the 11th instant is to hand. Your Chain Battery has done me a deal of good. I am still improving. If your Chain Battery can cure me of costiveness I would like to hear from you.—Yours truly,

"W. SIMPSON."

"J. L. Pulvermacher Esq., 200, Regent-street, W."

RHEUMATIC PAINS IN SHOULDERS.

"Wordley, near Stourbridge, January 10, 1870.

"Dear Sir,—I am glad to say that my friend John Davis is deriving great benefit from the Volta Electric Chain Bands, in fact, more than he ever thought of getting from anything, as he had tried everything else, and nothing did him any good, &c.—Yours truly,

"JOHN BENNETT."

"J. L. Pulvermacher, Esq., 200, Regent-street, W."

### MUSCULAR AND NERVOUS WEAKNESS.

"Barrack Building, New-road, Bognor,

"December 13, 1869.

"Sir,—I beg to acknowledge I found great relief from the use of the Galvanic Bands; the one I used for the foot enabled me to walk in about three months after using it.—Believe, me, dear Sir, yours most gratefully,

"FANNY RICHARDS."

"J. L. Pulvermacher, Esq."

DEBILITY AND NEURALGIA.

"Watford, Herts, Sept. 29, 1869.

"Dear Sir,—The Voltaic Flexible Chain Battery I had of you some time ago has done me much good. . . . I applying the Chain for neuralgia, almost relief was effected.—Faithfully yours,

"F. PERL."

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agents, and servants, restraining the said person or persons,

under a penalty of £5,000, from deceitfully advertising Belts,

&c., delusively representing them as electric. This decree is

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rous extracts from many Standard Scientific Works—viz., Dr.

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"Practice of Medicine," 8th Edition; and Dr. Handfield

Jones on "Nervous and Functional Disorders," &c., sent post

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